

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald  
Saturday, January 17, 1931**NEGRO P.-T. A. TO  
AID UNEMPLOYED****Bessemer High School Or-  
ganization Plans  
Needy Relief**

BESSEMER, Ala., Jan. 16—The Parent-Teacher Association of the Dunbar School, negro high school, is organizing the community to aid the unemployed, and will hold a mass meeting at the school Tuesday at 3 p.m. To stimulate interest, a prize has been offered to the pastor having the largest number of his congregation present.

At a meeting this week, the association formed an employment bureau to obtain part time jobs for men and women, as the continued unemployment was causing untold suffering and affecting the school attendance. Mary E. DeBardeleben, 2715 Tenth Avenue, was elected secretary, and those having jobs for negroes may call her at 1581-J.

The association is also opening a soup kitchen at the school to feed the needy children. Supplies or clothing to be given for the children or the soup kitchen may be turned over to J. B. Johnson, 2625 Ninth Avenue, president, or sent to the school.

The association raised more than \$500 last year through the assistance of the members' white friends, Johnson says, and the money was spent under the direction of Superintendent J. E. Bryan for books and other equipment and welfare work. Johnson is appreciative of the assistance given by the Bessemer citizens, and asks that they help the negroes in the present extremity.

**HURRAH! CAMP MARGARET MURRAY  
WASHINGTON IS OPENING  
JUNE FIRST**

All the month of May we have heard of nothing but closing, closing, closing. Now when the announcement is made by The Girls' Service League, through their president, Mrs. Pauline Fletcher, that June 1st is opening day at Camp Margaret Murray Washington, there will go up a joyful hurrah from the women, girls and whole families who have spent so many happy care-free days there, last summer and other summers past.

All is in readiness for the opening Monday, June 1st. The Hi Y Boys of the Industrial High School, supervised by Professors B. A. Hudson and Robert Johnson, will spend the first week, and the Rangers from the T. C. I. schools, under Prof. L. G. Blackus, the second week.

Campers from the Girls Reserves, Mrs. A. H. Parker, chairman, are scheduled for the third week. Those who attended the Big Annual Camp Day program, May 17th, held at the Industrial High School, got a glimpse of this group of girls, when they presented their "Health Playlet," which was directed by Miss Vivian Bell.

**Camp Survives Through Handicap of  
Depression**

Only a few know of the stupendous difficulties confronted by the head of the Girls' Camp to keep this worthwhile and much needed project alive and going. From the beginning in 1926 the great burden of responsibility has been, "A real Camp, alive with activities." To this end all monies were spent on improvements on the grounds, more than \$3,000. There has been no time, nor money, for clearing up the original debt on the land purchased, and had it not been for the great sacrifice made by Mr. G. A. Payne, to hold this property, the payment of this debt, now amounting to \$1,600, might have proved a serious handicap. But as nothing in this world can last, even the sacrifice made by Mr. Payne. The purchase note for due early this spring, and foreclosure seemed inevitable, when through

timely influence of Prof. A. H. Parker, whom the Girls' Service League have learned to look upon as an invaluable friend, The First National Bank refinanced the balance due, giving three years, with notes falling due semi-annually.

The Community Chest gave last year \$1,800, for maintenance, which was wholly inadequate. Faithful workers had to go without salaries.

The Girls' Service League is deeply grateful to all agencies who have contributed, this includes friends white and colored, clubs, churches, teachers

**A FRIEND INDEED**

Prof. A. H. Parker, principal of Industrial High School, who came to the rescue of the Girls' Service League by influencing The First National Bank to refinance their note of \$1,600. He is seen in many of the camp activities and has served each year as Master of Ceremonies at their annual Camp Day program.

or the city schools, and The Alabama Teachers Association, Insurance Companies, The Junior League, The T. C. I. Company and the Industrial High School. Funds for future improvements, and for the payment of the notes falling due every six months, must continue to come from these sources.

The camp property and all its facilities, when paid for, will belong to the people of this community, notwithstanding the vague suspicion arising from time to time that it is being acquired by an individual. The deeds are here, and he who runs may read.

Many will be glad to know that Miss Nora Martin, Health teacher of the Industrial High School, who has been Camp Manager from the beginning, will be in charge again this summer.

Three teachers are needed to help carry out the camp activities, and applicants for these positions may apply to Miss Martin or to Mrs. Fletcher.

Special interest will be shown girls from the families who have been taken care of by the Red Cross from July 1st to 20th.

**TUSKEGEE, STATE  
FROSH MEET AGAIN**

Entire Proceeds Of Game Friday  
Will Go To Hale  
Infirmaries

A second football game of the season between the Baby Hornet aggregation of the local State Teachers College High School and the Baby Tiger eleven of the Tuskegee Institute High School has been scheduled for Friday afternoon at Cramton Bowl with all the proceeds going to the local Hale Infirmaries which are opening up its annual campaign for funds.

The Baby Hornets and the Baby Tigers met in a thrilling game at Cramton Bowl on Oct. 30, which ended in a 13-13 tie when the local Baby Hornets staged a spirited rally in the final minutes of the contest to tie the score. Each team has won all their other games of the season and are anxious to play off their own tie game in order to determine the colored prep championship for Alabama.

The local Baby Hornets defeated Stillman at Tuscaloosa, Mobile County Training School at Plateau and Industrial High School from Birmingham. The Tuskegee Baby Tigers defeated Tugle Institute of Birmingham and the Jacksonville (Fla.) High School among their leading opponents. The entire ex-

penses of the game for Friday are being contributed by the two institutions so that the entire proceeds can go to the benefit of Hale Infirmaries.

The Hale Infirmaries, located at 325 Lake Street, is one of the deserving institutions of Montgomery that has merited the support of Montgomery's white and colored citizens throughout these years since its erection as a gift from James Hale and Ann Hale who were respected members of the community.

Annually the white and colored friends of the institution are called upon for donations to support the institution which does a considerable amount of charity service.

Friday afternoon will present the double opportunity to witness a spirited gridiron contest between these two well-matched rival elevens as well as to share in a contribution toward Hale Infirmaries.

**LITTLE ROCK, ARK. LITTLE ROCK, ARK.**  
**DEMOCRAT GAZETTE**

OCT 18 1931

## Negroes Will Aid Chest Campaign

Plans will be made tomorrow night for the participation of the negro people in the Community Chest campaign which will be conducted from November 3 to 11. The goal which has been set for the negroes to raise in their solicitation is \$5,000.

John C. Eakin, general chairman, and Roger Albright, director of the campaign, will speak at a mass meeting of negro leaders of the city at the Phyllis Wheatley Club tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. Representatives will be present from the various social clubs, the Parent-Teacher Associations in all the negro schools, and from other business and professional groups which are co-operating with the organization committee.

Plans for districting the city will be discussed and the plans outlined for accrediting the negro teams for the subscriptions received from such groups as the schools, the domestic help, the hotel employes and the laborers who sign the special subscription cards which have been prepared.

Campaign details will be explained and special instructions given concerning collections, reports, etc. The work of the Community Chest agencies will be described in a folder being prepared for distribution among the negroes. This will discuss especially the work which is done at the Phyllis Wheatley Club and by the negro Parent-Teacher Associations among the poor children who come to the public schools not properly fed.

Both these programs of work are financed by the Community Chest. Mention will also be made of the work among the negroes done by the Red Cross, the Pulaski County Tuberculosis Association, and by the welfare bureaus both in Little Rock and North Little Rock. B. B. Henderson is chairman of the campaign committee for negroes, and J. L. Loftis is vice chairman. Jennie M. Miller is chairman of the finance committee, and B. J. Dubisson is chairman of the advisory section. The development of this organization has been under the direction of Mrs. J. G. Thornton. Arrangements for tomorrow night's meeting will be in the hands of Miss J. E. Stinson, the secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley Club, and Helen Moore, the assistant secretary.

OCT 18 1931

## NEGRO COLLECTION FORCES ORGANIZED

**B. B. Henderson Will Be General Chairman for Community Chest Drive.**

Organization for solicitation for the Community Chest among the Negroes is complete and a mass meeting of Negro leaders will be held tomorrow night at the Phyllis Wheatley Club.

B. B. Henderson is general chairman of the Negro campaign, and the wife of J. G. Thornton is chairman of the Organization Committee. J. L. Loftis is vice chairman of the campaign. Jennie M. Miller is chairman of the Finance Committee and B. J. Dubisson is chairman of the Advisory Committee. Arrangements for the mass meeting are being made by Joetta Stinson, secretary of the Phyllis Wheatley Club, and by Helen Young, assistant secretary.

Representatives have been invited to the mass meeting from the Negro Parent-Teacher associations, fraternal organizations, Business and Professional Women's Association, the Business Men's Association, and others. John Eakin, general chairman of the Community Chest campaign, and Roger Albright, director of the campaign, will address the meeting. The campaign will be discussed, and plans made for a thorough canvass. Chairmen of the business groups will attend and make arrangements for soliciting areas of the various teams.

A quota of \$5,000 has been accepted as the goal for this division. Included will be contributions from the Negro schools, mail carriers, domestic help, hotel employes, and laborers who sign the special cards. To lighten the burden of collection in the Community Chest office, Negro solicitors will co-operate with other soliciting groups in securing as much cash with the subscriptions as possible.

Special folders on social service work among Negroes are being prepared for distribution. They will describe the work of the Phyllis Wheatley Club, the work among under-nourished children of the poor families by the Negro P. T. A.'s, the relief work by the Red Cross, the Social Welfare bureaus in North Little Rock and Little Rock, and by the Pulaski County Tuberculosis Association.

# NEGRO YOUTH IN THIS CITY HAS MADE PROGRESS

## Dixwell Center Stimulating Agency in Life Of People.

BY ANNE WHELAN

The negro girl in this city, as elsewhere, has the same aspirations as the white girl, for a nice home, male companionship, social life and an education.

But, according to Mrs. Laura Bell Reed McCoy, assistant at the Dixwell Community Center, there is one bar to the negro girl obtaining an education, no matter how ambitious she may be.

### Fear For Jobs

She is afraid she may not obtain a position when she has prepared at college or trade school or special vocational school.

"If I go to college what use is it," she asks, according to Mrs. McCoy. "Where can I get a job?"

Then the settlement workers point out to her that there is crying need for the educated negro girl among members of her own race in the South. "Too many of the negroes come north," says Mrs. McCoy, "expecting opportunities here, when they could do so much better work for our race in the south."

### They Made Good

There is the case of Miss Vera Dowdell, a graduate of the New Haven Normal school, who last year obtained a position in a negro school in Baltimore.

So many of the younger and more ambitious element of the negro colony of about 17,000 in this city, centered chiefly around the Dixwell avenue settlement house, have made good, that to Mrs. McCoy it is an invidious distinction to single out any group. However, there is Mrs. Mayme Williams, of County street, international grand matron of the O. E. S.; Mrs. Mary Jones Taylor, president of the Women's Twentieth Century club, and in charge of the Hannah Gray Home; Miss Frances Pierce, graduate of Talladega, who will take a post graduate in Columbia this year; Miss Elizabeth Herb, graduate of the New Haven Normal school, a social worker in the Dixwell avenue Congregational church; Mrs. Carrie Thompson Mardenborough, teacher for years in the grade school in Oak street, and the former Helen Williams, now married, who was a teacher in the city, and Mrs. Edith Tolliver, in the charities department, and Olive Dingwalls, secretary of the Community House, with

Mrs. McCoy, a business college graduate, and Miss Ruth Brown, secretary to Attorney George W. Crawford, intellectual leader of his race in the city, and last but not least, Mrs. Edward Goin, wife of the pastor of the Dixwell Avenue Congregational church, who is as-

sistant dean at Fiske university.

### Have Same Aspirations

According to Mrs. McCoy the negroes girls and boys need home and social help as well as the whites. The Dixwell avenue community house, erected on land which formerly belonged to the Dixwell avenue Congregation, is

doing a significant work for the negro youth of the colony. The negro girl wants, like her white sister, here and elsewhere, a nice home, male companionship, a facile social life and an education, and she meets the same temptation in her objectives.

The center assists in sociological work as well as recreational. It supervises three types of girls, the privileged, who like the white girls, come from homes with a cultural background; the under privileged, who would like to have the advantages of the privileged group, but are unable because of circumstances, and the delinquent girl, who has radically gone wrong, and needs correction and assistance.

### Mrs. Nelson Founded

The Center was founded fifteen years ago by Mrs. Blanche Wright Nelson, whose husband was an attaché of Howard university. At that time Mrs. McCoy was one of the volunteer workers at the settlement and she has continued her work since. She is now acting director of the settlement. She has done work with the Family Association, and the Civic Protective Association. She is a nurse, native of Hudson, N. Y., and graduate of the Hudson High school, and Hudson hospital, and has taken considerable work in courses of nursing and sociology at Yale.

Mrs. McCoy is three-fourths Indian, her father having been a full-blooded Mohawk Indian, and her mother a half breed. Her son, Joseph Armand McCoy, is the first negro youth to be elected captain of the track team at the New Haven High school. She has a second son in the same school. For years she did volunteer work for the Civic Protective association, under Miss Ruth Mix.

"The future of our race in New Haven is a bright one, she said, "if they will only remember that they are not isolated members of the human race. If they will remember that the same rules of society apply to them as to the whites, and that there is as great a future for them, if they are ambitious, as the white youth. "No one need say, "that there are not opportunities for the race throughout the land if only they have the qualifications for them."

## THE NEGRO AND THE COMMUNITY CHEST

In the Community Chest drive which has just closed, the Negroes of Washington rendered valuable civic service. They both worked in the drive and contributed to it.

The method this year of soliciting through the departments and the schools touched directly the largest source of income and more individuals of the race than were reached last year or the year before. Therefore a larger number pledged this year and a larger amount was received than in the two previous campaigns. But the Negro will not get the credit for the full amount he gave because his contributions at his place of employment were lumped into the total of that unit and there is no way of telling just how much he actually contributed this year, nor how many individual pledges were made.

"Giving" is a characteristic of the Negro that places him high in service to humanity. And while his economic status is much below other races, there is not the percentage of beggars and mendicants among Negroes as compared to the per capita of other races. They get together and help one another ere they become public charges.

This, the third drive of the Community Chest for Washington may be considered the best in results for the colored people of the District.

### Lincoln Relief Association

#### Celebrates 20th Anniversary

The Lincoln Mutual Relief Association celebrated the 122nd anniversary of Abraham Lincoln and the twentieth year of its organization on Sunday evening at the auditorium of the Masonic Temple. The Lincoln address was delivered by John T. Risher. Among other speakers were Dr. J. H. Curtis, Lucien Thompson, Laurence Curtis, Dr. W. H. Jackson and the Rev. J. N. Beaman. The exercises were under the auspices of the Institutional Union Mission.

Durham, N. C. Herald  
Monday, April 20, 1931

### HOOVER COMMITTEE TO STUDY NEGRO HOUSING

Washington, April 19.—(P)—A nation-wide study of Negro housing conditions by a committee of Negroes was announced today by President Hoover's conference on home building and home ownership.

The committee is headed by Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the national training school for women and girls.

John M. Gries, secretary of the conference, said that home financing, designing and other aspects would be studied.

The Negro committee includes: Lorenzo M. Greene, Washington, D. C.; W. J. Hale, Nashville, Tenn.; Gordon B. Hancock, Richmond, Va.; Fannie

C. Williams, New Orleans; R. H. Hogan, Lexington, Ky.; Benjamin F. Hurt, Industrial college, Georgia; Charles S. Johnson, Nashville, Tenn.; Robert R. Moton, Tuskegee, Ala.; and Mrs. F. C. Williams, Little Rock.

**Name Duke  
On Housing  
C'mish**

Washington, Oct. 8, (By C. N. S.)—Charles S. Duke of Chicago, noted as an architect, an engineer and one of the founders of the National Technical Association, was appointed last week by Secretary of Commerce Lamont as one of the members of President Hoover's commission on Home Owning and Home Building.

Mr. Duke is a member of the national commission of eminent architects and engineers who will examine and report upon the findings of 25 or more district committees assigned from all sections of the country. He is the only colored member of the commission.

## RACE PREJUDICE IN CONDUCT OF THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT

On June 22, 1926, Congress passed a bill (H.R. 7609) to provide a home for dependent children in the District of Columbia.

The bill provided that \$100,000 should be available for this purpose for the year ending June 30, 1927, and says that the District Commissioners "shall include such amount as may be necessary" thereafter.

To carry out the spirit and letter of this bill we have a "welfare department" with a director in charge and under him a woman who supervises this "home care."

It is in this woman's work, a Miss Davies, we find racial prejudice practiced. Any number of complaints have reached our attention which prove that Miss Davies' attitude and treatment of colored mothers is guided by her antipathy for Negro mothers. One mother says she told her that it was no use to send her daughter to school, for she would soon be in some white woman's kitchen and she did not need an education for that.

She is alleged to have told another mother that her daughter wore better clothes than white girls were wearing.

The bill says: "The board may make an order for a monthly allowance sufficient to insure the proper maintenance of the child in the home with the mother. And, if it deems necessary, may impose such conditions upon the granting of the allowance as will promote the welfare of the child."

The bill also states that the board shall cause every home to be visited to observe conditions which obtain in the home and "to offer such friendly counsel and advice as may be helpful to the mother and the child."

"Welfare of the child," when it is Negro and "friendly counsel and advice" to colored mothers have certainly been anything but "friendly" and certainly not for the "welfare" of colored children.

Mothers report allowances completely cut off by Miss Davies; threats made by her and racial spleen poured out on them.

Commissioner Riechelderfer was called up by two committees who complained of prejudice practiced by Miss Davies. He stated that race prejudice would not be tolerated in that work. Miss Davies continues in her work. Mothers continue to complain. Director Wilson was told of her antagonistic practices, but no relief has reached the mothers. The "Home Care" department of the welfare board is no place for a worker who openly expresses her racial antipathy.

We have a colored member, Mrs. Coralie Cook, on the board of Welfare, and she should see that Miss Davies' attitude and her alleged racial antipathy and prejudice as demonstrated toward Negro mothers be investigated.

## HOOVER NAMES DUKE TO HOUSING COMMISSION

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# Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931

Jacksonville, Fla. Times-Union  
Friday, July 24, 1931

## Appeal Is Made for Donations to Assist Negro Girls' Home

An appeal to white citizens of Jacksonville was extended yesterday for donations to the Elizabeth Lucas Bacon home for girls, kindergarten and day nursery maintained for negro children.

The institution, located at 945 West Nineteenth Street, needs clothing, shoes, books, magazines and other articles for its charges, the management announced.

Efforts also are being made to enlarge the kindergarten facilities but the expense has been found too great for the institution to bear. Kind-hearted white citizens who are interested are also asked to make donations of lumber for this purpose.

The institution has been in operation for some time. It has received financial support and other gifts from white citizens in times past. For these, the management is grateful, it was emphasized yesterday.

The home cares for the children of parents who are in service and unable to give their offspring the training to which they are entitled. Charges are given instruction in housekeeping, general management of a home, and appreciation of music. The number of children provided for by the home has been steadily increasing, it was announced.

The institution is under the supervision of the inter-racial women and the Young Women's Christian Association.

# FOOD CONSUMPTION REPORT OF NEGRO TENANTS IN THE YAZOO MISSISSIPPI DELTA

By Dorothy Dickens

## EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the concluding installment of two articles prepared by Miss Dorothy Dickens of the Experimental Station of the Mississippi A. and M. College. The two articles represented an intensive study made by the author on food consumption of average Negro tenants of her state. The previous article outlined the objectives of the study while the present article shows the results of the survey. 2-28-31

In a previous article, the methods used in conducting a food consumption study among Negro housewives in the Yazoo, Mississippi Delta were given. This study was completed and findings reported in Bulletin No. 254 of the Mississippi Experiment Station, "A Nutrition Investigation of Negro Tenants in the Yazoo Mississippi Delta." The constant and unavoidable changes occurring with the passing of time has made it forever impossible for the investigator to again address those 80 loyal homemakers who were so largely responsible for the success of the study, but the editor of this, your magazine, has given her the opportunity to say to them and to the thousands of other homemakers in like circumstances the things she would say if time were turned backward and she could again address that group.

You know, of course, why I am in Yazoo today don't you? You know that I am going to tell you about your food records and how you can improve them—what you ate and what you should have eaten.

Let's begin with milk. Only 30 of the 80 families who kept records owned a milk cow. Now what do you think that meant? Simply that the majority of families did not get enough milk. Ten of the 80 families did not use even one drop of milk during the study. A number used only a quart or a half gallon. This study showed that where a cow was not owned, there was little or no milk in the diet. If you had no milk cow, then your family was poorly fed—for milk has no substitute.

The families in this study cleared this study was made in February from \$200 to \$1,500 from sale of and March, that is, during egg seasons, or an average of nearly \$600 son. Therefore, we would expect the a year—that is, about \$50 a month. number of eggs used to be somewhat You and I both know that very little higher than at other seasons of the money was left in the majority of year. Well, the egg record was homes after food, clothing, interest good. It averaged about three eggs etc., was paid. Perhaps \$50, perhaps per person per week. About one- \$100, in a few cases even \$300 or third pound of chicken per person per \$400. How was this money spent? month was used. This means that not even one chicken per family per month was used.

In some instances second-hand cars were bought, in others it was squandered at Christmas time. How much better it would have been to have bought a cow. It doesn't cost as much money to feed a cow as it does to feed a car, yet a cow is more important for a family with growing children.

A milk cow is an excellent investment, and it is a safe form of health insurance. Convince your landowner that you must have some place provided for your cow. Many planters have said to me, "Colored folks won't feed or milk their cows. It's a waste to give them land for that purpose." Is that true? In some cases it doubtless is. On the other hand, some planters haven't the vision to see what a milk cow can do for their tenant families.

If you are a thrifty, industrious person, you can find a landlord with vision. Should one move to get milk? In my opinion a good milk supply is so necessary for the development of good teeth and bones that it's worth taking up one's bed for. However, I feel that few will have to move to get milk. Show your landowner that you want and must have a cow. I consider the low milk content of your diet your failure, not your landowner's failure. You are your own keeper.

I'm not suggesting that you buy your milk supply, for country folks should have milk cows. I doubt if the 50 families in this study without a milk cow would or could buy a milk supply of one quart of milk for each child in the family and one pint for each adult every day in the year. Do you think they would? Do you think they could?

Sixty of the eighty families owned hens. The average number owned per family was 26. As you know,

A total of about one-half pound of meat, fish, and chicken per person per week was eaten. You are perhaps saying, "That can't be right. Why my family used 16 pounds of salt pork during the study." Salt pork is not considered a meat. It is considered a fat. Those who say, "Colored people eat too much meat," are wrong. What they should say is, "Colored people eat too much fat." What about this egg, meat, and fish supply? Was it enough? No, not quite. The shortage in these foods, however, was not as great as the milk shortage.

Milk, meat, fish, and eggs contain the best kind of material to keep our bodies in repair and to promote growth among children. They also contain materials which prevent pellagra. Your diets explain why many colored people have pellagra. One needs animal foods as well as vegetable foods to balance the diet. A diet of vegetable foods and animal fats is bound to cause poor development of the body.

Less than one-half the required amount of fruits and vegetable were used during this study. At the time of the study many families had eaten up their winter supply of sweet potatoes—about one-half had a garden. Cabbage, dry peas, turnip greens, canned tomatoes, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, onions, lettuce, string beans, and collards were the principal vegetables used.

These are all good vegetables and should be used in large quantities. Vegetables and fruits help to keep us in good health, help to regulate all the processes which go on in our body. They are as necessary to our bodies as oil is to a machine.

Just as a milk cow is a necessary part of the farm so is the garden.

Although only one-half of the families had a garden at the time of the study there were only six who did not have a garden at some time during the year. These gardens were generally not successful. Very few produced enough vegetables to supply family needs. If your landowner gives you one-eighth or one-fourth of an acre of valuable land on which to grow vegetables, then it is up to you to make a success, to have something green growing all year round.

Growing and getting the vegetables is, however, only half of this big vegetable question. The other half is cooking them. Valuable material is often destroyed in the vegetable by over cooking in an open kettle. One of my colored friends once said to me, "If you don't boil cabbage three hours, it will make you sick." Do you believe that? Over cooking cabbage is what has given it a "black eye." Many white people are now eating their cabbage as cold slaw—in part the high death rate, frequent raw cabbage, a little vinegar, sugar, salt, and pepper. Our home demonstration agents are teaching us to cook vegetables until tender not until mushy and cooked to pieces. Colored housewives as well as white housewives need to take up these new improved practices in food preparation.

Well, I've told you that you didn't have enough milk, enough animal foods, enough fruits and vegetables, and I guess you are wondering, "Did we have enough of anything—prayer." Yes, in fact too much of two things. Your diets were too largely composed of starches and fats. That is, "store-bought products"—floor, bolted cornmeal, and lard. Some potatoes, home ground cornmeal, oatmeal could have well been substituted for some of the flour and bolted meal. With an increased use of milk some of the fat could be cut out. The menus which you kept for me showed too many fried foods. Watch yourself and see if you are one of those housewives who covers everything in fat.

The amount of sweets used was about that usually recommended by nutrition authorities. Sorghum syrup is an excellent sweet as it contains regulating material, as well as en-

ergy material. One must, however, not let sorghum or any other sweet crowd vegetables or fruits off the menu.

I've told you about the different kinds of foods you ate. Now, what of your diet as a whole? Have you ever heard the old quotation, "The whole is no better than its parts"? If the parts that go to build this diet were poor, then, what can I say of your diet as a whole? Nothing, except that it was poor, too. Poor in tissue building material, poor in teeth and bone building material,

poor in blood building material. Is there any wonder that the death rate is higher among colored people than it is among white people? Lack of proper food, as is evident from this study, is bound to have a bad effect on children as well as the adults. Your children are probably suffering even more from the effects of these diets than you are for they have less resistance than you have. Such diets, explain in part the high death rate, frequent illnesses, and lack of energy of the rural people of your race.

I have here in my hands a few of the menus which you kept for me during the study. This is what Anna served on February 1, 1931. Breakfast: Salt pork, biscuits, sorghum. Dinner: Turnip greens, cornbread, biscuit-pudding. Supper: milk, biscuit-pudding. This menu has two mighty good points, turnip greens for dinner and milk for supper. One serving of these two valuable foods is, however, not enough. One needs more than one vegetable—milk for breakfast as well as supper.

Here is a menu served on January 21, 1931 by Katie. Breakfast: Fried eggs, salt pork, biscuits, molasses. Dinner: Rabbit, cornbread, rice pudding. Supper: Rice pudding. This menu contains no milk or vegetables. It, however, has two valuable animal foods—eggs and rabbit.

Here is a menu served by one of the poorest families in our study, whom I will not name. Breakfast: Rice, cornbread, coffee. Dinner (at 4:00) peas, cornbread. No supper.

This is the kind of menu which will develop pellagra. This is a dangerous menu.

The average money value of the

food which a family ate during the month of this study amounted to \$21.50. \$9.46 of this was furnished by the farm. This makes a cash expenditure of \$12.04 per family per month. You are going to be surprised when I tell you that this is more than the white families owning small farms which I studied (Dorothy Dickens, "A Study of Food Habits of People in Two Contrasting Areas of Mississippi." Mississippi Experimental Station, Bulletin No. 245) spent. Yet these white families had a much better diet than yours. Then, why, how could this be? The white man raised twice as much food on the farm as you did. If you had raised as much on the farm as did these white people I studied and if you had spent the same amount in cash you would have been better fed than the white man. You raised 11 per cent less food on the farm than colored farmers in Kentucky, Tennessee and Texas, studied by Dr. Kirkpatrick of the United States Department of Agriculture. You let King Cotton grow too near your back door.

It has been estimated by an authority that the proportion of the farm diet grown at home is as follows: Meat, 75 per cent; fruit, 60 per cent; vegetables, 80 per cent; milk and milk products, 85 per cent; poultry and poultry products, 100 per cent. Your records showed the following proportion: Meat, 35 per cent; fruit, 56 per cent; vegetables, 30 per cent; milk and milk products, 82 per cent; poultry and poultry products, 97 per cent. These figures show that you are more apt to spend money for vegetables and meat than for milk and eggs. This proves what I said in the beginning—no milk cow usually means little or no milk.

Those interested in colored people are anxious to see them raise a big part of their food supply for they know more food on the farm will mean better fed people and, of course, better fed people will mean a more efficient and a healthier race of colored people. You can do much to bring about this condition. You can encourage the production of a good home garden, an orchard, poultry, and dairy products, hogs for meat. You can preserve fruit and vegetables by canning and drying in seasons of plenty for seasons of scarcity. You can learn how to combine and prepare

your food supply in a wholesome and time saving manner. The task of bettering your race lies largely in your hands. Surely, you are not going to shirk this, your great task

## PORTSMOUTH, VA.

STAR

APR 19 1931

## VIRGINIA DIVORCE RATE LOW

Divorce rates in Virginia have not shown the increases found in the national rates during the last ten years according to statistics given in the mid-April issue of the University of Virginia News Letter, valued analytic publication of that great institution of learning.

In the nation as a whole the divorce rate for each successive year has been slightly larger than the preceding one. In the continental United States the rate of divorce has gradually increased from 1.35 cases in each 1,000 of population in 1922 to 1.68 in 1928.

Virginia's divorce rate has been consistently lower than the national rate and the per annum figures for the decade starting in 1920 show no indications of an increased trend.

Just after the war divorce everywhere showed a temporary increase. In Virginia there were 1.60 court separations for each 1,000 in 1920. This sank to 1.04 in 1922. From 1923 through 1929 the ratio has varied between 1.18 and 1.27.

In 1920 there were approximately a third more divorces among Negroes than among whites in a given unit of population. This difference was consistent throughout the Commonwealth.

The rate of Negro marriage is also higher, and contrary to indications of the higher divorce rate there were more marriages to each divorce among Negroes than among the white population.

Virginia cities show a higher rate of divorce than do the counties. For the decade the rate in the twenty cities was 2.48 in each 1,000 of population. The rate varied somewhat among the counties. It was .82 in Tidewater, 1.02 in middle Virginia, .64 in the Valley, .89 in the mountains.

Alexandria and Arlington County showed a far higher rate than any other sections of the Commonwealth. The Alexandria figure was 10.87 and

that of Arlington County, 7.06. Danville was second highest city with 2.75, and Westmoreland second highest county with 2.08.

Nine scattered counties had rates of less than four-tenths of a divorce in each 1,000. Dinwiddie had the lowest rate of .31.

The following rates were shown in the Tidewater Counties of the State and the cities of Virginia:

### Tidewater Counties

	Total divorces for 1,000 of 1920-1929 population	Divorces per annum
New Kent .....	20	.45
Sussex .....	94	.75
King and Queen .....	56	.67
Surry .....	57	.70
Charles City .....	25	.52
Essex .....	37	.48
King George .....	107	1.94
King William .....	61	.73
Richmond .....	52	.73
Westmoreland .....	195	2.08
Prince George .....	57	.49
Isle of Wight .....	57	.41
Greensville .....	67	.54
Southampton .....	79	.29
James City .....	31	.82
Gloucester .....	82	.72
Middlesex .....	109	1.41
Nansemond .....	110	.51
Northumberland .....	36	.32
York .....	52	.66
Princess Anne .....	135	.90
Lancaster .....	113	1.21
Accomac .....	247	.70
Northampton .....	160	.80
Norfolk .....	304	.64
Mathews .....	41	.50
Warwick .....	188	1.86
Elizabeth City .....	485	1.88

Total ..... 3,057 .82

### Cities in Virginia.

	Total divorces for 1,000 of 1920-1929 population	Divorces per annum
Richmond .....	4,299	2.42
Norfolk .....	3,144	2.56
Roanoke .....	1,308	2.18
Portsmouth .....	876	1.75
Lynchburg .....	617	1.74
Newport News .....	798	2.27
Petersburg .....	479	1.61
Alexandria .....	2,294	10.87
Danville .....	601	2.75
Charlottesville .....	270	2.03
Staunton .....	218	1.93
Hopewell .....	163	2.56
Winchester .....	137	1.54
Suffolk .....	66	.63
Bristol .....	181	2.33
Clifton Forge .....	46	.71
Fredericksburg .....	108	1.70
Radford .....	56	1.03

Buena Vista .....	52
Williamsburg .....	20

Total ..... 15,733

The above cities were used by the State Bureau of Vital Statistics as units for tabulation in reporting divorce in Virginia. The list includes one city, Williamsburg, not politically independent of the county in which it is located, and the list excludes three cities which are independent—Harrisonburg, Martinsville, and South Norfolk.

## BROOKLYN, N. Y.

EAGLE

JUL 10 1931

## Installment Plan Wedding Fees.

It may or may not be true that in a Kentucky town Negroes are saying to all bill collectors, "President Hoover has ordered that no debts be paid for a year," and are standing their ground. But certain it is that the moratorium idea dovetails perfectly with the installment-selling plan so earnestly defended in high quarters. This is finely illustrated in the joint announcement of all the justices of the peace in Evanston, Ill., that the 8,141 slump in Sucker State marriages last year demands heroic treatment, and their pledge to permit installment paying of wedding fees, as well as to advance taxicab money to couples from a distance who want to reach their offices.

Only one more concession is needed to make Hymen's invitation irresistible for flaming youth: "Then let us be married, too long we have tarried, but what shall we do for a ring?" The justices should furnish that, too. They will not be responsible if in consequence many mesalliances like that of the Owl and the Pussy Cat should result.

Nothing is better established than that two can live as easily as one on nothing a year. Which reflection on the wisdom of marrying on a wedding fee moratorium, or deferred payment plan, in times of depression, is a justifiable Micawberism.

## Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931

The Family

### Marriage and Divorce

*Journal of the*  
LATE statistics on marriages and divorces in Virginia may be of interest as an index of social progress. During 1930 according to the state registrar of vital statistics, there were 23,871 marriages performed and 3,262 couples were divorced. About one-seventh of the couples who marry are eventually divorced. *6.13.31*

The marriage state is upset more often among white than among colored couples. We secured 27 percent of the licenses to marry and we obtained 21 percent of the divorces.

Statistics show that marriage and divorce run along at about the same ratio from year to year. If the number of marriages increase, so does the number of divorces. The registrar of vital statistics, cannot of course, keep any check upon separations which never perhaps culminate in divorce, and the number of these must be considerable. *Noted in Va.*

Desertion continues to be the main cause for divorce, approximating 79 percent. Which goes to show that adjustments of a mutual nature in marriage difficulties are rarely resorted to, and that when one or the other parties to the contract gets tired or disgusted, that is the end of the experiment, romance, or whatever it is called.

Suffolk, Va. Herald

Friday, April 17, 1931

### VIRGINIA AND DIVORCE

The mid-April issue of the University of Virginia News Letter in analyzing statistics on the subject, notes that divorce rates in the Old Dominion have not shown the increases found in national rates during the last ten years. In the nation as a whole, it says, the divorce rate for each successive year has been larger than the one preceding. In continental United States the rate of divorce has gradually increased from 1.35 cases in each one thousand of population in 1922 to 1.68 in 1929.

Virginia's divorce rate has been consistently lower than the national rate and the per annum figures for the decade starting in 1920 show no indications of an increase trend. Just after the war divorce everywhere showed a temporary increase. In Virginia there were 1.60 court separations for each 1,000 in 1920. This sank to 1.04 in 1922. From 1923 through 1929 the ratio has varied between 1.19 and 1.27.

In 1920 there was approximately a third more divorces among Negroes than among whites in a given unit of population. This difference was consistent throughout the commonwealth. The rate of Negro marriage is also higher, and contrary to indications of the higher divorce rate, there were more marriages to each divorce among Negroes than among the white population.

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the 20 cities was 2.48 in each 1,000 of population. The rate varied somewhat among the counties. It was .82 in Tidewater, 1.02 in middle Virginia, .64 in the valley, .89 in the mountains.

Alexandria and Arlington county show a fairer higher rate than any other sections of the commonwealth. The Alexandria figure was 10.87 and that of Arlington county 7.08. Danville was second highest city with 2.75, and Westmoreland second highest county with 2.08. Nine scattered counties had rates of less than four-tenths of divorce in each 1,000. Dinwiddie had the lowest rate of .31, says the News Letter.

The foregoing figures will prove most gratifying to Virginians, because they disprove the claim that the "fast and loose age" is having a disastrous effect upon the marital relations. The fine showing made by the counties of the state would indicate that the line is holding well and that the old commonwealth's moral tone remains unshaken. In two or more states of the union divorce mills have been opened "for revenue only" but public sentiment will reach the point someday when the opprobrium attached to one of these easy divorces will not make their recipients highly respected socially. The time may come when other states will be forced to outlaw legal separation round out while the applicants wait. But Virginia need not despair if its present record continues to hold.

# Red Cross Fighting Prejudice in South

Chicago, Ill.

The American Red Cross is leaving no stone unturned to wipe out racial feeling in its effort to relieve suffering in the South and even in sections of the North where prejudice is playing a part, according to a letter received this week by James P. Davis, head of the National Association of Negro Farmers, from A. L. Schafer, director of the Red Cross disaster relief division.

Mr. Schafer, whose office is in Washington, tells in his letter of an investigation made under his supervision of Pennscoot county, Mo.

The letter relates one instance of how the Red Cross is working to relieve suffering in the drought area and at the same time give everyone involved fair and just treatment. He wrote to Mr. Davis, founder of the farm association, who maintains headquarters at the Vincennes hotel, Chicago, in answer to a report he had received from Mr. Davis complaining of conditions in Missouri and southern Illinois.

Mr. Schafer's letter follows:

"On last Wednesday afternoon W. M. Crysler, drought relief chairman for Pennscoot county and I drove first to Steele, where we failed to locate Fred Wiggins who reported to the National Federation of Colored Farmers the matter of discrimination against Negroes. We did, however, discuss with Rev. Sadler, chairman of Steele area, the extent of any discrimination. It was explained that before Red Cross assumed direction local donations were made by white people with the stipulation that only white people should be cared for. During that period there was a great deal of thievery and much threatening, but under Red Cross direction all of that was stopped. Of the 437 families registered by Red Cross in this area 250 are Colored.

"From Steele we drove to Cooter and learned at the postoffice where Fred Wiggins lived and then drove to his home where his wife directed us to the field where he was working. We found him a straightforward, fairly intelligent Negro. He stated that he knew a number of families who were in a state of great need who had been told that Negroes could not be helped. I took the names of all that he could recall and asked him to send to

me at Carruthersville any others. To date I have received no more.

"We attempted to reach Rev. Stephenson, chairman of the Cooter area, but found that he was at Tyler for the day, the eastern most distributing point for this area. I later reached him by telephone and asked that he immediately, through Fred Wiggins, locate these families and render whatever assistance he found to be necessary. He said he would act promptly.

"It is true that there is at times a degree of conflict between Colored and white laborers and farmers in this part of the world due to competitive labor. Fifteen white men are in jail in Carruthersville now for threatening to drive Colored share croppers out of Wardell area. This has nothing to do with Red Cross procedure and in fact Red Cross has been instrumental in stabilizing conditions.

"You may be sure that the closest possible supervision is given each area and in every meeting the necessity of surveying each area is stressed in order that no real need may escape attention."

In discussing the Illinois situation Mr. Schafer related the results of an investigation he made in Pulaski county in which discrimination had been reported. He found that there are only 237 white families registered with the Red Cross in Pulaski county to receive aid, while the same county has 668 families of the Race registered. "It is my opinion," said Mr. Schafer, "that the Colored families are being cared for equally as well as the white families."

**BIRMINGHAM, ALA.**

**NEWS**

OCT 19 1931

**Birmingham Must Avoid Tragic Events Like This**

The Cleveland Plain Dealer of recent date discussed editorially the tragic consequences of a riot in a Negro settlement of that city when a destitute colored family was evicted from a rented apartment. Neighbors of this family, themselves desperately poor, fought the officers who brought service papers. In discussing the affair, The Plain Dealer describes the work there of the Negro Welfare Association, which is striving wisely to meet a very serious situation since

evicting a destitute family usually serves to increase its destitution.

The Cleveland commentator does not blink the fact that evictions are sometimes inevitable. A landlord can no more be expected to provide a non-paying tenant with free quarters indefinitely than a merchant should be expected to give away all his stock. This year, moreover—in Birmingham perhaps as well as in Cleveland—landlords are little better off than their tenants and have the additional responsibility of meeting tax bills and keeping property in repair.

It should be possible, however—in Birmingham as well as in Cleveland—to find some effective means of getting immediate help to the evicted from charity agencies and possibly postponing the execution of eviction warrants until such assistance has been obtained. That is what Cleveland's Negro Welfare Association is seeking to do. It is what a Birmingham Negro Welfare Association, assisted by the Birmingham Community Chest, should be doing this whole Autumn and Winter through.

There should be rallying to the help of those most pitiable of groups—destitute families with no roof over their heads. This newspaper is gratified to learn that there have been relatively few evictions locally; certainly there has been no aggressive policy by property owners, who realize, compassionately, that this is a sad time for movements like that. Happily, there are hundreds who need no such warning. They have been patient with delinquent tenants, recognizing that in many cases these people would pay if they could, but are utterly without means to do so.

## NEGRO HOUSING, NORTH AND SOUTH

The Negro who migrated to the industrial centers of the North, drawn thither by high wages in the fat years of American life, now finds that he has to pay exorbitant rents for sorry quarters, according to a survey made by a committee of his own race.

We are indebted to The United States Daily for the following excerpt from this committee's report: 11-29-31

The level of Negro income points him toward the section of low-priced dwellings. Real estate operators and home building concerns or individuals find it impracticable to build new homes in deteriorated residential areas.

From the new developments Negroes are almost universally debarred. The available houses, thus, are limited to these run-down areas which as they become less and less desirable command less and less rent and correspondingly lower income groups of the white population. Few repairs are made and eventually a point is reached at which it is more profitable to admit Negroes than to lower the rentals further.

Few new houses are built in the Negro areas. The standards embodied in building ordinances and sanitary codes thus

can not easily be applied to their dwellings. The chances for improvement are extremely rare. Property is difficult to buy because land takes on new valuation in areas potentially useful for business.

With no new houses or new areas available to the Negroes, and with urban populations constantly increasing, what happens, according to the committee, is a continual doubling up by the Negroes in the habitations available to them in the segregated areas in which they are allowed to dwell, by virtue of the color line enforced by public sentiment in Northern cities.

"In New York City," the committee goes on to say, "where population density is in a measure compensated by high buildings, the total density for the city was 223, while the Negro density was 336 per acre although Negroes have comparatively few apartments high enough to require elevators."

According to the committee, moreover, the density of Negro population was twice as great as the total density in Chicago, and nearly five times as great in Philadelphia.

Concerning the physical condition of the houses in these over-crowded Negro areas, the committee quotes studies made in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis and Albany, which report from nine to 50 per cent of the buildings able to meet moderate standards.

Not only does this committee find that members of the race in the North have to live in over-crowded and below-standard dwellings, but they also have to pay excessive rentals for these unsatisfactory habitations. These rentals that the unfortunate blacks have to pay are considerably higher than are paid by white families who preceded them, or who are living in similar properties. This is held to be the result of the limitation of available dwellings for the Negro element of the population of cities above the Mason and Dixon Line.

In support of these statements, the committee presents figures collected in a number of urban centers. The average rental per room for housing of low-income groups in New York is \$6.67, whereas for Negroes it is \$9.50.

This committee, one of the members of which happens to be Dr. Robert R. Moton, President of the Tuskegee Institute, will make its formal report to the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership, to be held in Washington, Dec. 2 to 5.

It may be noted that Negro housing in the South is not exempt from adverse criticism by this committee, although, from the summary of the committee's report in The United States Daily, the indictment

information to the contrary, we shall hazard in palliation thereof the probability of at least half of the Negro dwellings, lacking in proper sanitary arrangements, do not command a rental out of proportion to the meager incomes of the occupants. And doubtless the factor of personal relations into play here in partial mitigation, of the apparent hardship of Southern urban conditions. Facts of this nature are generally beyond the reach of Negro urban housing statistical surveys, but it would be interesting to know how many landlords of

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This study showed that "at least half of the dwellings are in various stages of dilapidation; that not less than one of every eight houses has plumbing facilities inside the house; that but one in three has a water connection inside the house; and that 14 per cent have neither kitchen nor bathroom." Similar reports are quoted from other Southern cities.

This criticism of deficiencies in the Southern scheme for Negro urban housing is probably just, but in the absence of

Negro residential property in Southern cities have during this depression period, derived practically no income from their "Negro shacks" for months hand-running and have allowed their destitute tenants to occupy rent-free these abodes, which may be far from what they should be in matters of sanitary equipment, but which are undoubtedly better than nothing.

And when it comes to motherhood versus outside-the-home activity such a controversy could never move one who has always practiced both. Where she lives in her native background, amid the traditions of her ancestors and untouched by the innovations that have transformed her to something less fine in certain Eastern centres, the Negro woman is by far the most imposing and admirable figure in American life today.

President Hoover's Committee on Housing has conducted a survey of Negro home conditions in northern cities of which this is an extract:

the big Northern cities, but we do read frequently of evictions of poverty-stricken Negro tenants in these urban centers on the other side of the Line, and likewise the sinister capitalization of such oustings by the organized forces of discontent. A form of Communist activity, be it noted, which culminates every now and then in conflict of neighborhood mobs of blacks with the officers of the law.

In the matter of comparative sanitation, North and South, it also may be observed that grim necessity forces on the Northern landlords some attention to the hygienic equipment of their Negro tenements. Densely populated as these sordid dwellings are, some attention must perforce be given to sanitary requirements, otherwise disastrous epidemics might originate in these congested Negro quarters.

Without suggesting a shirking of Southern responsibility in the matter, we think it may be safely remarked that the report, or at least so much of it as has come to our attention, shows that the need of improvement in this line is greater in the North than it is in the South. Then, too, hard hit by the depression as all sections of the country have been, the owners of urban Negro property in the large Northern cities are better able financially to be the first to embark on a program of betterment. Such a betterment appears sorely needed, and a wholesale building of new Negro dwellings in the Northern centers and remodeling of those already in existence, would be a start, at least, on the road to prosperity by giving work to a great number of otherwise idle men.

**BROOKLYN TIMES**

**NOV 28 1931**

**Negroes in This City.**

Americans of the northern States are today fully convinced that the colored population of the country is entitled not only to perfect political equality, but to a generous and kindly measure of social standing also. Of course, both political equality and social standing are denied the colored men and women of the South. If it were not, States such as Mississippi or South Carolina would be represented at Washington by colored Congressmen and United States Senators. Because of this fact of sup-

pression, and also because while the number of lynchings in the South has decreased, these indefensible barbarities exist in sufficient number to warn the colored people of their constant danger—the Negro is migrating in thousands to the northern cities. For instance, the number of colored persons in New York has increased from 91,709 in 1910, to 327,706 in 1930.

The level of Negro income points him toward the sections of low-priced dwellings. From the new developments Negroes are almost universally barred. The available houses thus are limited to these run-down areas. Few repairs are made and eventually a point is reached at which it is more profitable to admit Negroes than to lower the rentals further. Few new houses are built in the Negro areas. The standards embodied in building ordinances and sanitary codes thus cannot easily be applied to their dwellings. The chances for improvement are extremely rare. Property is difficult to buy because land takes on new valuation in areas potentially useful for business.

This general statement still unfortunately holds good as to conditions in this borough. Brooklyn, so largely of New England ancestry, with its fine tradition of Beecher and the Abolitionists, should wake up to the realization that while segregation is not a crime as lynching is, it is in these new days a relic of barbarism.

**NEW YORK TELEGRAM**

**DEC 14 1931**

## A Woman's Viewpoint

By MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

"THE only entirely economically independent women in the world today are the American Negroes," says Dr. Eleanor Wembridge, referee for girls in the Cleveland Juvenile Court.

At first glance this may seem a startling statement, but those who have had lifelong contact with the Negro woman in her natural surroundings realize its truth.

Anyone who has ever known a good old Negro mammy surrounded by her flock, in all stages of growth, knows what is meant by this remark, too. The heart of the Negro woman is as large and all-inclusive as the sky. She has no social background, no traditions of caste, no memories of wealth. She has always worked for a wage in the homes of other women, and often supported a lazy husband besides.

THE Negro woman is, in truth, a strange figure in the world of the feminine. Unlike her white sister, she has no false notions of chivalry to divert her attention from truth. In a nation where the utmost in achievement by her sex was measured in terms of parasitism she alone has upheld the supreme dignity of labor.

She is not excited about the new freedom, because where the privilege of work is concerned she has always been free. Her job has never been an

# RED CROSS HAS A BIGGER JOB THAN IN FLOOD OF '27

Drive Now On To Raise \$10,000,000 To Aid Needy

1-31-31

Washington, (ANP) - Speeded by thousands of appeals daily from the drought areas of the South, the American Red Cross has set itself in motion on the biggest task in the fifty years of the organization's existence.

Much bigger is its present job, for which an appeal for a \$10,000,000 fund is being made, than was the task caused by the floods in 1927.

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## Letters Reveal Suffering

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From Kentucky came this letter to Red Cross headquarters: "I am a poor man who has a family of five little ones, and expecting another little one in five months. I served in the World War and never asked for a bonus. It is such a hard time, I sure do need some help. If you can send me some clothes would be glad to pay you in eggs and chickens for them, as I have no money. Would like to exchange eggs for a baby outfit if you have one, as we have no clothes for the new little one."

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A friendly neighbor in Alabama wrote about a family near her, in whose aid she had exhausted her resources. "There are six little girls and two little boys, father and mother," she wrote. "Children have not been to school a day, because they are not able to buy books, clothing, and have inadequate food."

From Coffee County, Ala., comes this report: "The people in this county have been hit downright hard. This year the drought, last year the flood; the previous year a failure of crops; and the year before the shortage of crops. So it has become a vicious circle; consequently food is far from abundant, other than corn meal, and in some families sweet potatoes."

From Oklahoma: "I must tell you that there are families who are starving and freezing to death. If ever people needed help, these people here are needing it now. I visited a home last week and found nothing but part of a small sack of flour and a pound of lard. There are six small children and another one expected soon. They have a few pairs of ragged overalls for the children; no clothes for the expected baby. The father cannot leave the farm and cannot find work here."

From a Kentucky county judge: "The school teachers in the rural sections are closing their schools on account of children being unable to attend for want of clothing. In fact many teachers are making an effort to find clothing for their pupils, in order to continue their school. The merchants have become so drained of their capital in their efforts to give relief that the mercantile businesses have become practically bankrupt and but little more can be expected from that source. A bank failure means mortgages on many homes will be foreclosed and loss of these homes is inevitable."

From Hattiesburg, Mississippi: "The transient problem, due to the drought, is overwhelming. One day eighteen men from eighteen states applied to us. The highways are full of men walking from place to place."

## Dog Pulls Wagon

From Logan County, Kentucky: "I saw a man, wife, and three little children with a little express wagon, drawn by a dog, as it passed over United States Highway No. 60, which leads across Kentucky."

Several counties in Kentucky report a large number of former residents who had been working in Ohio, Indiana, or West Virginia, have returned

destitute and taken up abode in unoccupied houses.

From Warren County, Miss.: "Many tenant farmers, due to bad crops, are moving about, thinking another location might prove better. One man visited our Red Cross chapter who had artificial legs in which some of the necessary mechanism was worn out. He could not continue his journey. The Chapter got a shoemaker to put on new straps. We fed him and helped him."

One of the most touching letters received, among many hundreds is the following written by a woman from a North Carolina community:

"I am a member of the Baptist Church and seeing so many little children without clothes, makes me study what to do. There are so many that can't come to Sunday School on account of having nothing to wear. Lots of even grown girls and women—hard-working people—are suffering for coats or sweaters, dresses, or shoes, to keep them comfortable."

"There are dozens of little children that haven't had any shoes or clothes bought for them for the winter. Some orphan children; some widow-women's children; and some that have parents, who are suffering too."

"The people that had money in the bank lost that, too, when the bank went broke."

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--The Associated Negro Press.

## Principal Drought Area *Quintessence* Sufferers Are Negroes

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### DROUGHT RELIEF AMONG NEGROES

During a public address over the radio last summer, a United States Senator from one of the Southern states expressed clearly the Southern white man's point of view concerning the Negro, by the following quotation: "An ought's an ought, and a figger's a figger; all for the white man, and nothing for the nigger." Stories are coming in from Arkansas which indicate that the South interprets this verse literally.

It is reported that in the small towns and rural districts of Arkansas, the relief of Negro drought sufferers comes last. Negroes get what's left—if anything is left. There has been food profiteering. A Negro, who was overcharged for merchandise, was nearly lynched because he objected. The store-keeper had suspected that the money in his possession had been given him by the relief workers. Conditions are bad.

*2-13-31* There have been observers on the field, but more are needed, and now. The N. A. A. C. P. can render a valuable service to the race by putting watchers on the field. Send them to the rural sections—to the parts where all Negroes were driven by gun point to work on the levees during the last Mississippi flood! Let these agents tell the true story to the people! It is noble to raise money for drought relief; it is sensible to see where the money goes. See that the Negroes in Arkansas get food!

With the New Year here it is hoped that with expansion in industry and the speeding up of construction a large number of unemployed will be absorbed. This thinning out of the ranks of the bread line in the different cities. Thus far there is no indication of the increasing of employment opportunities among negro wage earners indicated in the record of the number who come to the Urban League emergency relief kitchen daily for food. The obviously abject condition of 95 per cent of those who appear in the lines each day, most of them repeaters, convinces the casual observer that they are in very great need. Frequently they are without shoes and sufficient clothes to cover their bodies. How they keep warm and keep from freezing is almost a mystery when we think of the poorly constructed houses in which they live and the lack of fuel and other heating provisions, as well as the scarcity of bed covering and clothing otherwise.

There has been a more organized expression of sympathy and disposition to provide food for these poor people through the Urban League emergency kitchen by various organizations during the past week than any other line. Both the Baptist and the A. M. E. Minister Alliances passed unanimous resolutions at their last weekly meetings in which each minister agreed to take an after collection for the support of this kitchen. Several of them, including the Wheat Street Baptist and First Congregational churches agreed to give the people an opportunity each Sabbath until this condition is improved, a chance to give what they feel called upon to give in order that the more than 500 men, women and children who come each day might be given at least one warm meal a day.

In addition to the organizations mentioned, two of the larger insurance companies—the Atlanta Life Insurance Company and the Pilgrim Life & Health Insurance Company—pledged themselves to contribute at least \$25 a month as long as the need is apparent, all of which indicates that these officials of the companies are manifesting an interest in the welfare of not only actual policy-holders who may be victims of unemployment, but the potential policy-holders and church members. They realize that in proportion as the pastors of these churches and officials of these organizations concern themselves with the welfare of the less favored members of the community during these days of depression that when the fat years return these several organizations will be compensated by the money turned into their coffers through the wages of these people who are now being helped. Other insurance companies and businessmen are being approached.

The White Star Provision Company, the Atlanta Sausage Company, the Walker Roofing Company, Womack Lime & Cement, Haverly Furniture, J. J. Haverly Furniture, Stone Baking, Atlanta Milling Companies and Alex Hamilton, contractor, as well as many others, have given materials toward equipping the kitchen, located at 23 Fort street. A personal earnings; but this was not large number of men and women of

## STUDENT GIRLS CENTER STARTED IN ATLANTA, GA.

Seen A Step Toward Solving Housing Problem

ATLANTA, Ga.—(ANP)—A step toward the solution of the problem of finding adequate and suitable housing and home conditions for the girl who is away from home attending school has been taken here with the founding and operation of the Student Girls' Center by the Cooperative, Industrial and Benevolent Association. The Center is located on High Street. Miss Lillie Green is superintendent. It is a home service institution, non-sectarian, non-commercial, attempting to assist the girl of small means, from small towns and rural communities throughout the south, who is attending one of the five colleges or other schools of this city. Accommodations are also offered rural school teachers. Miss Kathryn Johnson, who has been the moving spirit behind the Center, tells the following story of how it came to be:

"Thirty years ago, in Butte County, Georgia, I taught my first school; I had one hundred and twenty-five children, received twelve dollars a month for salary and six dollars of that had to be paid out for board and room. At the close of the summer session, I gave a concert for two nights, and charged ten cents at the door; this supplemented the meagre sum I received for teaching.

"With what I was able to save, I entered Spelman Seminary. I was given some work to do, before and after school, and in this way I was able to make it through. It was during these struggles that I had an opportunity to see the limitations of our group in the rural districts, and promised myself and God that if ever the opportunity presented itself, I would make it possible for some of those girls with special talents, to come out of those woods and go to college and be trained, in order to make a living for themselves. The race is losing too much leadership timber, because somebody doesn't help.

For Thirty Years "I kept this vision in my heart for thirty years, during which time I gave a few scholarships through my own kitchen, located at 23 Fort street. A personal earnings; but this was not enough. I went into the field of beau-

every walk of life are volunteering their services in any capacity in order that these people might know that the strong members of the system are supposed to bear the infirmities of the weaker members during these days of great distress and suffering.

"While I travelled, I organized charitable and benevolent clubs, and gave them a community program. We could not have them join the National Association of Colored Women, because we received male members. In many of our clubs men hold leading places. I have found that they take great interest, and are splendid givers. We now have a chain of clubs from coast to coast. We made a national organization of the chain of clubs and named it The Cooperative, Industrial and Benevolent Association.

"We meet annually in the South, because the work has largely been in that section. We have especially striven to reach the places in the mountains, and other remote rural sections.

"We have one club in Swaziland South Africa, and support a male teacher who teaches English to the natives.

"Our official organ is The Messenger, issued monthly.

"After operating fourteen years, we decided to have an objective toward which we could focus all of our time and energy. This objective is the Student Girls' Center.

Public Is Generous

"The general public has been very generous in helping to furnish the home; a parcel post shower brought sheet, towels, table linen, and what not, from all over the country. One woman, Mrs. McCullough, of Philadelphia, gave a splendid piano and sewing machine, and Mrs. Frances Smith, of Chicago furnished an immense quantity of silver for the dining room.

"In addition to this, many have been generous in contributing funds, so that we have been able to meet most of our expenses. Although the home has just been opened, it already has a few girls, and more have made application to enter after the holidays. We feel that the institution is to be one of the country's trail-blazing, pioneer centers, that will be the cause of many of the worthy capable young girls of the South finding a way to the goal of their ambition."

By Jesse O. Thomas.

From week to week there has already appeared in connection with the conduct of the Emergency Relief Kitchen accounts of contributions of different sizes and character being made by business enterprises of both groups, and of relief organizations of the race and from men and women of different professional affiliation. Among the churches which have contributed the name of Ebenezer Baptist Church was inadvertently omitted. Ebenezer not only has taken one offering, but decided some three or four weeks ago to take an offering following each Sunday morning service and has kept up this policy since that time.

The pastor, Dr. A. D. Williams, has attended the meetings of the Committee and given constructive counsel as to program, policy, etc. Up to date, Ebenezer Baptist Church has contributed \$7.74.

In response to the letters sent out by Mr. E. B. Mays some weeks ago asking some 150 men and women to contribute at least one dollar each per month for the next two or three months, replies continue to come in with accompanying checks. Since the last news story went to press the following named persons have sent in their contributions: Messrs. B. E. Mays, John Hope, C. W. Washington, C. S. Cox, J. E. Ivey, B. R. Brazeal and Dr. G. A. Howell. A check has also been received from the Atlanta Life Insurance Company for \$25, representing its January contribution.

The Pullman porters gave \$9.55 at their meeting of the Pullman Porters' Benefit Relief Association and pledged to contribute monthly. Mrs. Fred White, through whom the contribution was made, plans to meet with them at subsequent meetings, giving them up to date information relative to the conduct of the kitchen in relation to the number of people being served, etc.

Other contributions that have been received during the week are from the Women's Auxiliary of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, First Congregational Church, Wheat Street Baptist Church, Bellman Social Club, Central Methodist Church, Fort Street Methodist Church, Providence and Traveler's Rest Baptist Churches.

No aid or support given the kitchen and nothing has made it more possible to carry on in the serving of from five hundred to nine hundred people a day than the women who have solicited clothing and money from clubs and those who have given their voluntary service in serving at the kitchen daily. Mrs. C. C. Wimbish is general chairman of the Women's Division and has succeeded in perfecting a very helpful and representative organization, touching the various interests of the Negroes throughout the city. Mrs. Juanita Paschal Toomer, secretary of the Committee, is chairman of the Committee on Kitchen Service. In organizing the Serving Committee, Mrs. Toomer selected one woman to serve as chairman each day, making seven different chairmen, and asked each one to select her own assistants for that day, which means that while the Kitchen Service Committee has a general chairman, it is subdivided into seven serving committees with a chairman for each. An incomplete list of these committees is as follows: Monday: Mrs. Eugene Martin, Jr., chairman; Mesdames J. Raymond Henderson, S. M. Lewis, Ida Reid LaMarr, Eloise Goodlett, Anna B. Watkins, assisting. Tuesday: Mrs. A. B. McCoy, chairman, with members of the Mo-So-Lit Club, namely: Mesdames Jesse O. Thomas, May Harvey, Mabel Warren, I. S. Blocker, Samuel Cooper, Wendell Cunningham, C. W. Greene, Eloise Goodlett, William Burney, Harold Cunningham, Alex Hamilton, Jr., J. B. Brown, W. J. Faulkner, assisting. Despite the fact that they are not members of the Mo-So-Lit Club, Mesdames Bishop Johnson and B. C. Baskerville also serve on Tuesdays. Wednesday: Mrs. J. F. Post, chairman; Mesdames Lucy Reeves, J. Harpe, E. C. Ford, Frank Rai-

Misses Elsie Allen and Jack assisting. Thursday: Mrs. Ester B. Washington, chairman, with Mesdames Cyrus Campbell, J. H. McGrew, Salina Shaw, J. Bowden, Tatnall, Bomarwart, Troas Latimer assisting. Friday: Mrs. W. H. Estes, chairman, with Mesdames McGill, Turner, I. Pierce, Black, Logan, T. C. Jones, John Davis, assisting. Mrs. Lizzie Wyatt is chairman of the committee serving on Saturday.

## And There Came a Mighty Famine In the Land

By Dr. H. R. Butler

One of the tragedies brought about by changing conditions in this section of the country is that a great famine not only in Egypt, wrought in the case of faithful old negroes who grew up on the farms, says the Good Book, even into the spent their lives in service and are now victims of economic disasters. Most of these old negroes are direct descendants of slaves, born within one to three decades of emancipation and they loved, worked and had their being in surroundings that harbored their ancestors and made the race free from care and immune to trouble, so far as looking out after bodily comforts and human wants were concerned. The slaves were quartered, fed, doctored and otherwise cared for and these immediate descendants in numerous cases continued under the same regime, dependent, looking to their "white folks," for care and protection against any day of trouble.

Thousands of these negroes have been continually watched over and provide for by landlords, frequently at great expense and much loss, because the absentee landlordism did not afford opportunity for overseeing to be properly done. The result was that poor crops resulted, unsatisfactory prices prevailed and losses were incurred—and farms depleted.

But now the type of negro who must be cared for in the country is the older generations who were unable to get away from the farms along with the younger folks, when the boll weevil came and the disastrous hard times of the deflation period a decade ago were experienced. They had to stick it out and they were able to do so. Now, however they find themselves in another deplorable plight, with another period of stress upon them and nobody much able to aid them. Something must be done even to supplement the charity work that is being conducted by the counties in the way of doles. —Augusta Chronicle.

Something should be done for these poor old souls. Their own race cares nothing for them as a rule

Back long years ago there came a famine not only in Egypt, but it extended into all the earth, says the Good Book, even into the land of Canaan. Joseph, by having interpreted Pharaoh's dreams, had been made second ruler in Egypt and during the seven years of plenty had gathered and saved corn and was thereby able to furnish corn to the Egyptians and also to sell some to the people of neighboring nations thus tiding over the seven years of famine. And, so, these days of hunger are by no means new, but rather they reach far back into the years. They call this condition a "DEPRESSION"; I have lived through four such, and they called them, in those days, "PANICS". Some call them "HARD TIMES". Call this situation by what ever name you may, this much is true, millions of people in America are out of work and are not able to buy food or clothing or pay rent. Children are hungry and are crying for bread. This is not only a calamity facing the colored people, but it is facing the white people as well. I have about as many white people begging me for bread and help as I have people of my own group. I have traveled extensively in this and foreign countries, but only once have I seen more ragged dirty children than I have seen here in Atlanta the past eight or ten months, and that exception was in a certain European country just after the World War. Really, seriously we are passing through the worst time I have ever witnessed. All this, and the banks are full of money and the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer daily. Congressmen and Senators talk, but all the time the banks are gathering in the money and letting none out, thus adding to the gravity of the situation. What is to be done and who is to do it? Many people are sick but not only unable to pay the doctors, but have no money to buy

medicine. So one can easily see the way the people and conditions are headed. We are now facing another serious outbreak of influenza and with no money to pay for medical service or medicine the health of the nation is in jeopardy. All doctors practicing in the state must pay a tax of fifteen dollars a year; when, as a matter of fact, the state ought to pay these guardians of the health of her citizens an annual fee for the charity service rendered. One of these days when the state and national governments fall into the hands of real statesmen these conditions will be changed.

Georgia is my state, but I must confess it is "PROGRESSING BACKWARDS" and not forwards. She has lost two congressmen, she is among the leading states in lynching, mob violence, ignorance, injustice, making corn liquor, she is not only broke but is in debt, she has some seven or eight tax on her citizens and businesses. This is the result of a one party system. This is the final door reached by forty-five years of democratic rule. These conditions and others that I could mention do their bit in helping to frighten away capital and drive out labor. When a town or a city or a state learns the lesson that it needs every citizen worth while it can get and keep, it has learned a helpful lesson. The more good citizens, the more work, the more food must be used and more clothing must be purchased and the more houses will be needed for rent. He that insists in lynching and mobbing and in dealing out injustice, all of which will drive the people away, is simply a fool of the first water.

And there came a great famine in that land. Has it ever occurred to you, that the parts of the country suffering most in this awful calamity are those in which injustice, mob violence and race prejudice ran rampant for generations? Well, just think it over and you will see that this is true. God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform; and our

God is not through. He will continue to punish men until He 'all bring the high low, and they shall acknowledge Him as the God of all humanity. He passed over Egypt and took the first born of every home before old Pharaoh would let His people go, and now God is walking through the South, "And there came a mighty famine in that land"; but my dear readers do not be discouraged, but rather be encouraged to do the right and trust God and some men. Every-thing will work out alright in the near future. God has never allowed his people to be unjustly imposed upon by any one without paying that people back with compound interest. Some days hunger may be yours and you may be poorly clad, but do not falter or lose your way to the cross. hold fast to faith in God, and He will go before you and guide you through it all. "And there came a mighty famine in that land."

Newnan, Ga., Herald  
Friday, February 27, 1931

## RE-UNION CLUB WORK PRAISED

Dr. Pierce Comments on Fine  
Record of Negro Charitable  
Organization.

Editor Newnan Herald:

"The Re-Union Club No. 1 celebrated its twelfth anniversary recently. This, as your readers know, is an organization of colored women for good works of various sorts. It originated here in Newnan, is interdenominational, has carried forward an expanding program of usefulness, and now has in view yet larger things.

"I was invited to be present on the occasion of its anniversary. The house was filled to the limit and an interesting program was rendered.

"As I listened to the tabulated report of these twelve years, I was amazed at the magnitude of its achievements. Literally thousands of visits have been made to the sick, hundreds of meals have been prepared and carried to those in need, and other hundreds cooked for them in their own homes, laundering done for them when occasion required, food and garments supplied, prayers offered, and other services rendered. The record is nothing short of marvelous.

"I am confident that no other cross section of the population of this city

and no other organization could show as fine a record for a single year and less likely to show as fine over this period of years. Its record of money contributed may perhaps have been excelled by many companies of equal numbers, but not its record of services rendered—nursing of the sick by day and night, ministry to their needs in various ways and the destitute as well as the sick.

"Newnan has reason to be proud of this organization. I believe that God regards it with high approval."

A. M. Pierce.

### Club Report

The detailed report of the organization for the past twelve years is as follows:

Visits to the sick, 55,713; meals donated, 3,692; meals cooked, 1,730; washings done, 690; butter donated, 82 lbs; sugar donated, \$62.05; coffee donated, \$78.55; flour donated, 74 lbs; meal donated, 52 bus.; potatoes donated, 21½ bus.

Bread, 476 loaves; rice, \$37.50; soup, 28 gal.; meat, \$22.50; collards, 45 heads; wood, \$25; coal \$37.00; grapefruit, 72 doz.; underclothes, 40; floral offerings, 150.

Apples 127½ doz.; oranges 167 doz.; lemons, 122½ doz.; chickens 108; eggs, 128 doz.; dresses 175; hats 230; shoes, 97 prs.; shirts, 43; quilts, 31.

Paid on house rent, \$12.00; doctor's bills, \$15.00; burials, \$45.00; medicine, \$10.00; canned fruit, 8 gals.; soap, 200 bars; socks, 11 prs.; stockings, 115 prs. Ironings done, 485; cleaning done, 942; work for disabled, \$10.00; prayers offered, 345; money raised, \$2,231; money paid out, \$1,772.

We, the Re-Union Club, No. 1, wish to thank Mrs. T. S. Bailey, chairman of the distribution of the Empty Stocking Fund, for her kindness shown us in helping us to donate articles to our sick and less fortunate during the Christmas season. May the Lord bless every one of you. And we wish to thank our colored friends for what they did in helping us in our donations.

Rosa Weathers, President.

Social Conditions, Improvement of 1931

## Social Workers

### School Shows

### Healthy Gain

10-15-31

Atlanta Institution Begins Twelfth  
Year of Operation with 66  
Per Cent Increase

The Atlanta School of Social Work has opened its twelfth year of operation with an increase of sixty-six per cent in full-time enrollment—the largest the school has ever had, according to an announcement by the president, Prof. Forrester B. Washington. Fifteen states are represented in the student body, which includes alumni from twelve colleges and universities.

The opening was featured by addresses by Jesse O. Thomas, Secretary of the National Urban League; Dr. Will W. Alexander, Director of the Interracial Commission, and Kendall Weisiger, assistant to the president of the Southern Bell Telephone Company.

It is announced that Miss Frances Douglas, a 1931 graduate of the school, has been employed as case worker with the Associated Charities of Charlotte, N. C. Miss Douglas is the daughter of Charles W. Douglas, well known business man of Macon, Georgia, and graduated from Howard University before entering the Atlanta school.

# Campaign For Better Homes Starts Off

## Local Movement Is Headed by Ga. State College

Pres. B. F. Hubert and Mrs. E. R. Lockette of Industrial College are directing the 1931 Better Homes campaign for the colored citizens of Chatham county, Georgia. The local program which it is hoped will reach every colored family in the community is a part of the nationwide campaign to bring about more attractive and better built small homes. Its purpose is also to develop more wholesome home surroundings, through improvement programs including the cleaning up and beautifying of premises, the planting of trees and shrubs, painting of buildings and fences, and screening of unsightly buildings, as well as the bringing of orderliness and beauty into the interior of the homes.

This program is sponsored by Better Homes in America, the organization which was initiated in 1922, with Hubert Hoover, then secretary of Commerce, as chairman of its Board of Directors. President Hoover continues his interest in this important work by serving as honorary president of the organization. Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, secretary of the Interior, is its president, and Dr. James Ford, executive director.

The Better Homes movement is engaged in mobilizing men and women in every American community in an active program which will provide for families of small or modest means attractive, comfortable, convenient homes, and encourage a wholesome type of home and community life. Nearly seven hundred committees of colored citizens were formed in 1930 for the purpose of adapting the national Better Homes program to local needs. Each colored committee is headed by a man or a woman appointed as chairman by the Washington office of Better Homes in America because of his or her experience in civic affairs and interest in wholesome development of the community.

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such as a parent-teacher association, women's club or civic association, and in some communities by schools and colleges. The programs consist of lectures and discussions of contest for improvement of homes both interior and exterior, and of house lots, yards and neighborhoods; and in some communities include the demonstration of one or more new or remodeled houses to show the better types of homes that can be provided for families of small or modest incomes.

In many communities the campaign is carried on as a school project, and where this is done the furnishings for the demonstration houses. These programs culminated in Better Homes Week, which, in 1931 will be April 23 to May 2nd. In the 1930 Better Homes campaign colored citizens took active part in number of the local campaigns which were awarded prizes or given honorable mention by the national committee on awards.

The central office of Better Homes in America in Washington, D. C., conducts research and acts as a clearing house for sources of information on all phases of home-making. Instructions and materials for carrying on the campaign are supplied by that office.

## To Assist Unemployed

### Colored Committee to Have Charge

### WORK AMONG NEGROES

### Funds For The Needy Being Raised

The colored unemployment committee was unexpectedly called upon by the Mayor's Commission on Unemployment to meet at the Boy's Club Friday night of last week.

Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce were present and in addressing the full colored committee, stressed the seriousness of the "Work Relief" program confronting our city; and urged full support by the colored people to whatever relief program that might be presented from time to time. The

representatives of the Chamber of Commerce were well received and their expressions endorsed by the entire colored committee.

On last Sunday morning, general chairman Frank Callen was suddenly called to the Chamber of Commerce for a conference with Col. E. George Butler, chairman of the finance committee of the Mayor's Commission. It was made quite clear at that conference that a campaign for funds was not only necessary without further delay, but that the colored committee should participate and use all its influence in urging that every colored man, woman, boy and girl, who has a job should contribute during the months of October, November and December; to help raise the emergency fund of \$125,000. Heretofore colored citizens have benefitted many times more from funds of this kind than the amount actually contributed by them.

In the shower heads are up—the For this reason there should be no fear about them receiving just and genuinely sympathetic treatment in the management of affairs. All money raised will go to the one general fund. Every working person from the minister to the delivery boy in the store and the cook in the private family, will be expected to give. There will be a close check of the roll to see whose names are written there. This is a concrete test of leadership and loyalty to our community. The name of every contributor will become a permanent part of the Chamber of Commerce records for future reference by all employers.

With this as the sentiment endorsed by the Colored Committee on Unemployment, T. J. Hopkins, Jr., was appointed chairman of the campaign among colored people. On Monday night the campaign committee met at the Boys' Club to hear Col. Butler tell of the general plans being made and of his personal desire to see the colored people make a good showing in the campaign. When the time comes to get employment or other relief for colored people, the main question to be answered is: "How did the colored working man and work,

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A mass meeting was called by Chairman Hopkins Tuesday night at the McKelvey-Powell auditorium, where an enthusiastic gathering of colored citizens endorsed the work of the Colored Committee and pledged full cooperation in working for the success of the \$125,000 "work relief" campaign.

## AUGUSTA, GA.

HERALD

OCT 7 1931

### RELIEF PROBLEM IN AUGUSTA TO BE EFFICIENTLY HANDLED

WE ARE glad to note that the Emergency Committee here charged with handling the relief and unemployment problem are to tackle the job immediately and that a comprehensive survey of the city and county's needs will be given first consideration.

This is a movement that will not recognize race or creed and will be undertaken for the benefit of every citizen needing assistance.

The job of making a thorough survey of a city's population is not an easy one and will require days of intensive study and effort. Sub-committees have been named, though, and the task is to proceed with all the dispatch possible.

Relief among the Negroes, where the need is said to be far greater at this time than among the whites, will be directed by Walter S. Harris, editor of The Herald's department dealing with news of the colored people. Harris is entirely competent to handle this important task and we feel sure that he will have the earnest cooperation of every Negro citizen, particularly those who are fitted by their training and experience as civic leaders to assist in a movement of this kind.

Among the Negro laborers, who depend mainly upon construction jobs for a livelihood, there is said to be a considerable number of unemployed, and these must be assisted, either by giving them work or through donations of food and clothing, if they are to escape actual suffering this winter.

We are confident that the needy among the whites will be adequately provided for, and we are glad to note that similar relief measures are to be undertaken for the benefit of the Negroes.

Until the Emergency Committee, which is headed by Mr. John Phinizy, has made a thorough survey of the situation, it will not be known just what sum is to be needed to take care of Augusta and Richmond County's needy. Also, the need will have to be determined before the committee can decide just how relief is to be provided.

No doubt the committee will attempt to create jobs wherever possible. This has been done in Savannah and

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If able-bodied men, whose families are in need, are offered work and it is declined, then the city and county authorities will know how to handle such cases. The vagrancy law will be their weapon.

Among the plans already suggested to the committee are those providing for business houses to contribute a small percentage of their gross receipts to the cause and individuals to give a part of their earnings.

Then, too, there are many families where the inmates, because of infirmities or disease, are unable to work even when employment might be made available. These, of course, will have to be provided with food, fuel and clothing, and it will be the job of the Emergency Committee to determine the best system of furnishing such

## Negro Children of Georgia

*Survey*  
**T**HE Georgia Study of Negro Child Welfare begun in 1926, for which the Rosenwald Fund made a yearly grant of five thousand dollars, matched by citizens of the state, has been completed. The study began with the collection of information on all agencies, public and private, which included Negroes in their programs, and with an intensive case-work study of a group of dependent or delinquent children in institutions. In 1927 *Louisa de B. Fitz-Simons* assumed direction and set going a series of city and rural demonstrations with which all sorts of agencies collaborated. In Atlanta, where the Community Chest supplied a worker for a year, the demonstration developed such public consciousness of the need for a unified program for Negro children that a new organization, the Child Welfare Association of Fulton and De Kalb Counties, was formed, which in addition to its own job has filled in many gaps in the whole field. In Augusta, where the demonstration was largely confined to the Richmond County Juvenile Court, an immediate result was the addition of a Negro probation officer to the staff. The rural demonstrations in Houston and Peach Counties was concerned with school attendance and its relation to family life. *Vol. LXVII no. 6.*

Early this year it was decided to tie up the demonstrations to the program of the State Department of Public Welfare. The failure of the legislature to make legal provision for the placement of children by the Department will slow down the continuing results of the study but private effort will, it is hoped, enable the Department to perform many helpful services.

The Rosenwald study brought the state face to face with serious gaps in its welfare provisions. There is only one institution, the Georgia Training School for Boys, serving the Negro children of the state at large. There is no provision for delinquent Negro girls nor for feeble-minded or crippled Negro children. The study concludes that the development of social work for Negro children must go hand in hand with work for white children, emphasizes the unprotected situation of Negro children whose parents are both employed and urges the development of a complete Negro child-health program and of mental-hygiene clinics for children of both races.

CHICAGO, ILL.  
TRIBUNE

JUN 23 1931

## IS CHICAGO OVERBUILT?

The conclusion reached by Prof. Woodbury of Northwestern university that a shortage of low-rental apartments is impending in Chicago runs counter to the general belief. It has been said so often that Chicago is overbuilt that a statement to the contrary is regarded with considerable suspicion. The fact is, as Prof. Woodbury shows, that overbuilding is pronounced in some types of structure but not in all.

We have more office buildings and more high priced apartments than we have immediate need for. We are also more than adequately provided, for the present, with hotel accommodations. But elsewhere the supply is not so great in relation to demand.

There is said to be some \$400,000,000 worth of real estate now in foreclosure in Cook county. Accurate statistics are lacking, but men in close touch with the situation have expressed the opinion that at least three-fourths and probably more of the foreclosed residential properties were designed to appeal to perhaps one-fourth of the population, that fourth being those possessed of incomes of \$2,500 and more a year. If foreclosures may be taken as a rough index of where the surplus lies, it follows that there is relatively little overbuilding of dwellings for families whose incomes amount to \$2,500 a year or less; and these people constitute three-fourths of the population of Chicago.

It is precisely in this class, too, that the doubling up of families in apartments is commonest. When business conditions improve and employment picks up, the first result to be expected is the setting up again of the family in its own dwelling. Few persons live by preference in overcrowded rooms. The great majority of men and their wives prefer to run their own establishments. Doubling up is an expedient, unwholesome and unwelcome, which has been forced on many families by hard times. The first sign of improvement in employment will be a stimulated demand for low-priced apartments. It is a fair guess that the demand will quickly absorb any excess that now exists. Probably within a year of the upturn the demand will have equaled if it has not outrun the supply.

This fact constitutes, perhaps, the most hope-

ful element in the present business situation because it points the way out. The leaders of business and finance are scanning the horizon for some new industry in which capital can be invested for the long term with safety and the prospect of moderate profit. The success of the Rosenwald housing experiment in Chicago and similar ventures in New York indicates that even on the basis of the high building costs of recent years large-scale apartment houses for families in the lower income brackets can be made to yield an adequate return. The margin of safety will rise as the shortage of dwellings becomes marked. Buildings constructed now when costs have touched bottom will have an advantage over future construction.

In this connection it should be remembered that most of the buildings now available for the \$2,500 families are relatively small. Because they are small, the costs of financing have been relatively high. Economies in planning have been lost, partly because the architects employed have been generally of the fifth or sixth rank and partly because the small building is inherently more wasteful of excavation and roof than the large one. If today, in the midst of the depression, the Rosenwald project for Negroes, with only 7 per cent of the population of Chicago to draw upon, is profitable, it seems altogether probable that similar constructions, appealing to a far wider clientele, will prove at least as successful in the face of the definite shortage of accommodations which can be anticipated a few years hence.

American industry taught the business men of the world that the largest profits are to be found in supplying the wants of the families in the lower income ranges. If the principle is true of automobile transportation and merchandising it may also be true of housing. Henry Ford put as much into a \$500 car as he could pack with the economies of large-scale production to help him. The same theory if applied to the building industry might lead to equally astonishing results.

Incidentally, money invested in building apartments for the common man today will go farther toward ending the depression and providing employment than any other investment which has been suggested. The building industry will stimulate, directly or indirectly, every other in the country.

ILLINOIS.  
ITHACA, N. Y.  
JOURNAL-NEWS

JUN 18 1931

## New Housing Project Found Profitable

Experiment in Chicago Shows  
Return of 5.56 Per Cent  
Return on Capital Outlay  
—Suggests New Method of  
Aiding Prosperity's Return

By OWEN SCOTT  
(Copyright, 1931)

Chicago—There is money to be made by new, now unemployed, capital in housing projects which combine modern, comfortable living quarters with reasonable rent. This lesson the Rosenwald Fund here believes it has learned from its experiment with a model apartment project in the heart of Chicago's Negro territory. Results indicate, according to foundation officials, that in the field of new construction may lie a path to prosperity.

The experiment, fostered by Julius Rosenwald, Chicago philanthropist, has been carried out during a most difficult period, under the most adverse circumstances. Construction was carried out at the height of the period of inflated building costs and the project has had to earn returns on this investment during a time of depression which is particularly severe among Negro workers. Yet net income represents a profit of 5.56 per cent on the capital involved, after write-offs for taxes and depreciation.

### Would Restore Stability

"Economists tell us that what we need today is another automobile industry to restore employment and prosperity," commented Edw. R. Embree, president of the Rosenwald Fund. "Of late, it has occurred to quite a number of us that what we are looking for may be right under our noses. The industry which may bring back prosperity could very well be the business of providing better living accommodations to families of moderate means.

"We used to think of model housing as a means of promoting the welfare of society. Now we are

thinking of it as a means of restoring economic stability. If we could induce capital to flow into housing projects, for which the need is incalculable, as any one must admit who travels about any of our great cities, there would be no unemployment of building mechanics to trouble us for a generation. The incomes of the railroads from hauling building materials would be greatly increased. And so on.

### Money Available

"The nation is on a dead center economically, although there is plenty of money available for investment today, as the success of the Mellon loan indicated. If some of it could be invested in housing, our economic difficulties might begin to fade."

Alfred K. Stern, a director of the Rosenwald Fund, emphasized that the experiment in housing among Chicago's Negroes had deliberately been carried out under circumstances that would not be favorable, in order to show the possibilities that lie in this form of enterprise. Yet profits have been made from the 421 apartment structure.

Officials of the fund point out that there are huge areas in Chicago and other cities, now bordering on slums, which could be rebuilt with the probability of profit. The problem is to interest capital in the venture, which experiment now shows to hold important possibilities for earnings.

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It is precisely in this class, too, that the doubling up of families in apartments is commonest. When business conditions improve and employ-

ment picks up, the first result to be expected is the setting up again of the family in its own dwelling. Few persons live by preference in overcrowded rooms. The great majority of men and their wives prefer to run their own establishments. Doubling up is an expedient, unwholesome and unwelcome, which has been forced on many families by hard times. The first sign of improvement in employment will be a stimulated demand for low-priced apartments. It is a fair guess that the demand will quickly absorb any excess that now exists. Probably within a year of the upturn the demand will have equaled if it has not outrun the supply.

This fact constitutes, perhaps, the most hopeful element in the present business situation because it points the way out. The leaders of business and finance are scanning the horizon for some new industry in which capital can be invested for the long term with safety and the prospect of moderate profit. The success of the Rosenwald housing experiment in Chicago and similar ventures in New York indicates that even on the basis of the high building costs of recent years large-scale apartment houses for families in the lower income brackets can be made to yield an adequate return. The margin of safety will rise as the shortage of dwellings becomes marked. Buildings constructed now when costs have touched bottom will have an advantage over future construction.

In this connection it should be remembered that most of the buildings now available for the \$2,500 families are relatively small. Because they are small, the costs of financing have been relatively high. Economies in planning have been lost, partly because the architects employed have been generally of the fifth or sixth rank and partly because the small building is inherently more wasteful of excavation and roof than the large one. If today, in the midst of the depression, the Rosenwald project for Negroes, with only 7 per cent of the population of Chicago to draw upon, is profitable, it seems altogether probable that similar constructions, appealing to a far wider clientele, will prove at least as successful in the face of the definite shortage of accommodations which can be anticipated a few years hence.

American industry taught the business men of the world that the largest profits are to be found in supplying the wants of the families in the lower income ranges. If the principle is true of automobile transportation and merchandising it may also be true of housing. Henry Ford put as much into a \$500 car as he could pack with the economies of large-scale production to help him. The same theory if applied to the building industry might lead to equally astonishing results.

Incidentally, money invested in building apartments for the common man today will go farther toward ending the depression and providing employment than any other investment which has

been suggested. The building industry will stimulate, directly or indirectly, every other in the country.

**BALTIMORE, MD.**

**SUN**

## **JUN 23 1931 HOW THEY HURT**

A timely illustration of the effect of high tax rates on municipal progress and development is presented in the annual report of a building enterprise undertaken in Chicago by Julius Rosenwald, widely known philanthropist.

Actuated by desire to improve living conditions among the Negroes of Chicago, Mr. Rosenwald supplied funds with which to construct modern apartment buildings in a run-down district which could be rented at moderate rates. The investment amounted to \$2,598,000 and yielded the satisfactory return of 5.59 per cent. With such a showing it was thought that capital could be persuaded to enter this field and the excellent purpose would be served of rehabilitating slum districts more rapidly and of providing wholesome surroundings for people who dwell in them.

But the report says that a fly was found in the ointment. There was miscalculation of the burden of taxes. The estimate was but half as high as the property is now compelled to pay and if no relief is had the return on the investment will be reduced to 4 per cent,

too low to invite further undertakings of a similar character.

It is a truism that taxes bear upon the whole population and not alone upon those who pay them, but it is difficult to drive the lesson home when proposals are made to expend public funds on things which a city may not be able to afford. Such proposals would be more carefully scrutinized if there were more general understanding of the deadening effect of high tax levies on enterprise of every kind.

## **A NEW SCHOOL PROBLEM**

With the opening of the public schools next week, parents, and public spirited citizens who are not parents, as well as teachers and other school authorities are confronted with an important and pathetic new school problem, the feeding of school children who come from homes where unemployment and poverty have robbed them of proper nourishment. A survey of the schools during the last months of the past term revealed that the percentage of school children who come to school each day with inadequate or no breakfast at all runs alarmingly high, especially in schools located in sections where the unemployment has hit hardest. This means that the school children of the south side are hardest hit of all.

Undernourishment undermines the health of children, lowers their resistance to disease, and unfits them for their school work to a tragic degree. During the past year the teachers and principals of the south side schools responded loyally to relieve this situation from their own purses, but the teachers are themselves in a pathetic financial plight, and can not be expected to carry on this work of feeding the children alone. This work offers a splendid opportunity for parent-teachers organizations, civic, social, charity and welfare clubs, to undertake a much needed and deserving measure of emergency relief work.

## **Illinois Whites Build Home For 80 Year Old Negro Man**

**TUSCOLA, Ill.**—(ANP) — Nearly one hundred white citizens of this town, who have known 80-year-old Billy Buck for more than fifty years, made up a pot of money and donated it to build a home for the old man. Buck refused to go to the county poor farm and lived in a shack. He made his own living on a small plot of ground and refused to leave although the shack in which he lived was almost to the ground. Friendly carpenters donated their services and with the money given built an eight-by-ten one-room cottage.

# **Sixth Annual Conference of White Citizens Plan Negro City Pastors and Social Workers Aid For. Colored**

*Christian Advocate*  
"THE Laborer Looks to His Church"—The organization of a colored unemployment relief society is being perfected here. A meeting with that purpose in view was held Wednesday night of last week by 200 persons. Herbert Goins, deputy Sheriff and president of the new organization, said the colored people of Evansville will attempt to handle their own relief work during the winter.

Topics listed for discussion include: "Unemployment and the Negro Family"; "Facing Unemployment in Three Typical Cities—South, North, and West"; "What the Church Can Do to Encourage White Employing Classes to Give the Negro a Fair Share of Available Positions"; "Use of Leisure During the Periods of Depression"; "Having Encouraged the Migration of the Negro Worker to the City in Times of Prosperity, to What Extent Is Industry Responsible to Him in Periods of Depression?" and "Organizing the Local Church for Family Welfare."

Among the speakers invited to address the conference are: Harry A. Mackey, mayor of Philadelphia; Edward D. Kohlstedt, corresponding secretary of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension; Carter G. Woodson, author and historian; Kelly Miller, Howard University professor; G. Bromley Oxnam, president of DePauw University and author; Bishop Edgar Blake, of the Indianapolis Area; Eugene Kinkle Jones, national secretary of the Urban League; Bishop Matthew W. Clair, of the Covington Area; Harriett Vitum, Northwestern Settlement House; Bishop Robert E. Jones, of the New Orleans Area; George Arthur, Rosenwald Foundation; Nannie E. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls; Anthony Overton, president of Douglas National Bank; Myrtle Cardeu, director of the Hallie Q. Brown Community House; D. H. Stanton, secretary of the Southern Division of the American Bible Society; W. H. Williams, pastor, Columbus, Ohio, and others.

The Rev. M. W. Clair, Jr., is pastor of Simpson Church, where the meetings will be held. Bishop M. W. Clair will preside at all sessions.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931.

**KINCKLE JONES  
NAMED ON INTERNA-  
TIONAL COMMITTEE**

*alone*

**BODY CONVENES IN GER-  
MANY**

*11-6-31*

*Marquette, Wis.*

In preparation for the next International Conference of Social Work to be held in Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, early in July, 1932, Eugene Kinckle Jones, Executive Secretary of the National Urban League, has been appointed to the Program Preparatory Committee of the Section on Economic Insecurity and the Family. This Committee will have the responsibility of arranging for discussions and securing data on case studies showing the effects upon family life of low wages, unemployment and other economic and industrial conditions; also the effects upon family life of industrial or economic changes which are usually thought of primarily in connection with the wage-earner.

The Committee personnel includes the Reverend John A. Ryan, Department of Social Action, National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington; Miss Frances Perkins, New York State Department of Labor; C. C. Carstens, Child Welfare League of America; Paul Douglas, University of Chicago; and John A. Lapp, Department of Social Sciences, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

# KY. BARBER CONVERTS SHOP INTO DINING ROOM; HAS FED 500 JOBLESS

## Social Workers In Demand

George Marshall of Paducah Demonstrates Spirit of Brotherly Love In Practical Manner.

PADUCAH, Ky., Feb. 19.—In these days of unemployment, when such a great host of people, the world over, are in want of the necessary things to keep the soul and body intact, one can readily see the need for a greater exhibition of the altruistic spirit; the real spirit that I am my brother's keeper.

The city of Paducah, Ky., as well as other cities throughout the world, has been, and is now being tested for a genuine demonstration that there are within its borders people who are willing to share their morsels of food and their pennies with the needy. In the light of the foregoing, Paducah can well boast of one noble son who has said to the unemployed: since for 38 years, when times were good you made a living possible for me, why in these days of depression I will not in any way forsake you; come, and I will share my bread with thee.

The gentleman referred to is none other than Mr. George Marshall, who, on each Tuesday for six weeks has converted his barber shop into a kitchen and dining room to feed the unemployed people. While this is being done joyfully and without complaint on the part of Mr. Marshall, I feel that the churches, clubs, fraternal, and other organizations could well join in and push the good work on.

Religion, you know, is the outward act by which men indicate their recognition of a God to whom obedience and honor are due; their feeling or expression of human love, fear, awe for some superhuman power; their system of faith and worship. Is not this big act, then, on the part of a non-professor of religion an expression of human love imbued with

faith and worship, since our greatest medium of service to God is through and by the service rendered to our fellowman? I think it is.

The writer looks upon the services rendered by Mr. Marshall as a challenge to all the professors of religion; will we accept it or shall we continue to refuse to let our lights shine to light up the paths of the unfortunate?

The numbers fed are as follows:

January 6.....	55
January 13.....	70
January 20.....	83
January 27.....	90
February 3.....	103
February 10.....	120

Paris fashion experts now plan to make the petticoat finer than the skirt for Spring wear, and about three inches of the petticoat will show below the hem line of the skirt. We thought the petticoat was obsolete.

## HOMELESS NEGROES TO GET QUARTERS

Homeless Negroes in the future will be given temporary care at the Negro branch of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Phyllis Wheatley branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, according to plans announced Tuesday by the Homeless Men and Women Committee of the Community Chest Family and Child Welfare Council.

All homeless Negroes now applying to social welfare agencies for help and assistance will be referred to the Travelers' Aid Society and the City Unemployment Bureau. The society and the bureau will work out plans for each individual while being cared for.

Special quarters are being arranged at the Young Men's Christian Association and the county will equip it with twenty cots, mattresses and blankets loaned from the jail. Smaller quarters are already arranged at the Phyllis Wheatley branch for women.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Talking before the student body of the Municipal College in this city, T. Arnold Hill, of the National Urban League's Department of Industrial Relations, called attention to a number of lessons that the depression has taught. The speaker pointed out several trends of general informational value, but emphasized the need of specialized training which "fortifies it it does not absolutely protect one in such a crisis as this."

One of the developments of special significance to Negroes is the need for trained social workers. On this point Mr. Hill said: "Negro social workers are in demand. The demand has been increased by the unemployment emergency and as a consequence case workers are being used in large numbers. Where they were once employed more of them are now employed, and in many agencies in which there were none, they may now be found. Though this is a temporary demand, it is a safe prophecy that large use will be made of Negro case workers in the future. Not all of those now serving are trained. In fact there were not enough trained workers to meet the demand. Doubtless administrative positions could have been open to them, if they had been qualified."

Continuing, the speaker urged those undecided as to their career to examine their own aptitude and capacities, as well as the varied types of work covered by the field of social work.

Mr. Hill addressed a group of social workers and laymen at the Y. W. C. A. at 3:30 when he reviewed conditions among Negroes, basing his conclusions on his recent report prepared for the National Urban League, "Unemployment Status of Negroes." in 106 cities.

# Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931

Louisiana.

New Orleans, La., Times-Picayune

## GOOD SHEPHERD'S HOME ASKS HUGE BUDGET INCREASE

### Fourth Public Hearing Is Held on Allotments of Chest Funds

The House of Good Shepherd is asking an increase of 242.4 per cent over the 1930 appropriation from the Community Chest, it was reported Thursday night at the fourth of a series of public hearings being held to arrange an equitable distribution of the Chest fund.

The amount asked by the home is \$37,967.63, an increase of \$26,879 over 1930. It was pointed out in the official report to the Chest committee by John Daly that the present population of the institution is 157. He added that 82 of the number were committed by the courts. The home receives \$8000 yearly from the city. The expenditures of the home for 1931 have been budgeted at \$74,178, with earnings at \$36,210.

All but three of the nine agencies reporting urged increased appropriations. The Negro Day Nursery and the New Orleans Day Nursery reports showed that the two institutions could meet expenses with a decrease of 11 and 10 per cent respectively. The Peoples' Methodist Center report indicated that the institution could be operated with the same appropriation that was allocated last year, \$4120.

A summary of the other 1931 budgets as presented at the hearing are as follows:

Chinchuba Deafmute Institute, for 58 handicapped children; estimated expenditures, \$13,142; earnings, \$1950; asked from Chest, \$11,192.

Home for Incurables, for 112 incurables; expenditures, \$29,850; earnings, \$15,427; asked from Chest, \$14,422; an increase of 43.5 per cent.

Cadet Normal and Industrial school, for 63 negro children; expenditures, \$13,128; earnings, \$7954; asked from Chest, \$5173; an increase of 21.1 per cent.

Infant Jesus Creche, for 14 children; expenditures, \$1695; earnings, \$475; asked from Chest, \$1220; an increase of 12.4 per cent.

Widow's Faith Home, for aged negro women, estimated expenditures, \$2734; earnings, \$50; asked from Chest, \$1534; an increase of 22.2 per cent.

New Orleans, La., Times-Picayune

## Garden Contest Judging Is Begun in Negro Schools

### Show of Plants, Flowers and Vegetables to Open Wednesday

Judging in the 18th annual Mary F. Reames school garden contest in negro schools of the city was started Monday.

The winners were McDonogh No. 6, first; V. C. Jones, second, and J. A. Craig, third, landscaped gardens; Danneel, first; A. P. Williams, second, and Rosenwald Cut Off, third vegetable gardens; McCarty, first, J. W. Hoffman, second, and Fisk, third flower gardens; McCarty, first; McDonogh No. 6, second, and McDonogh No. 37, outside window gardens; J. A. Craig, first; Danneel, second, and McCarty, third, inside window gardens.

The judges of the contest were George Thomas, Dr. William T. Penfound and James M. McArthur.

It was announced that of the 1000 pupils of the J. W. Hoffman school, 617 have flower gardens in their homes and 264 have vegetable gardens.

The annual garden show of potted plants, cut flowers and vegetables will be held at Behrman gymnasium Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The show, scheduled to begin at noon Wednesday, will be open to the public each night except Friday night.

Displays of the manual training and home economic departments of the schools will be held in conjunction with the garden show.

Lake Providence, La., Banner-Dem't Saturday, November 21, 1931

## TO ORGANIZE RED CROSS DRIVE AMONG COLORED PEOPLE

An organization for the conduct of the Red Cross drive among the colored people of East Carroll Parish was perfected at a meeting held by Frank Voelker, chairman of the drive, with the colored pastors of the various churches in Lake Providence and vicinity. All those present seemed to be very enthusiastic about the drive this year and felt very sanguine of success.

The colored people of the parish gave over \$1200.00 in 1930 and it is predicted that they will reach \$1800.00

this year. Those present at the meeting were: Elder Jesse Kent, Pastor of the Central Baptist Church and the Pilgrims' Rest Church, Elder Sol Cooper, Pastor of the Mt. Zion, Jerusalem and Progressive Chapel Churches, Elder G. W. Owens, Pastor of the First Baptist, Mt. Pleasant and The Rose Hill Churches, Elder John Campbell, Pastor of the Evergreen and Mounds Churches, Elder Stovall, Pastor of the Jerusalem Church, and Simmie Dyson, Senior Deacon of the

North Star Baptist Church of Lake Providence, and Elder C. H. Freeman, Pastor of New Morning Star, Lilly of the Valley and New Light Churches.

This drive will continue up to Thanksgiving day, at which time it is hoped that every colored person in the parish will have been enrolled.

## Illegitimacy, Insanity, and Filth Characterize the Eastern Shore

Dr. E. M. ~~White~~ <sup>Wiley</sup> in the  
Baltimore Evening Sun

Two years ago I was engaged in educational research in Maryland. The results of the survey of the Eastern Shore were appalling.

The Eastern Shore schools (primary) are considered to have the lowest curriculum of any county of any State along the Atlantic Seaboard. The use of English and Eastern Shore accent is recognized to be the most illiterate speech in the country except the Swedes of Minnesota (who never claim to be Americans, anyway), and the people of the mountain regions of the South, who really have an excuse.

Some seventy-three per cent of the inmates of the State institutions for the insane are natives of the Eastern Shore.

In the last ten years there have been more petitions filed in court for the support of illegitimate children on the Eastern Shore than in all the other counties of Maryland or the city of Baltimore.

In the thirty-two States I have worked in I have never encountered the lack of sanitary living conditions or poverty that I encountered on the Eastern Shore.

Figures don't lie and the above statistics are available so that the only light a few Eastern Shore sentimentalists have with H. L. Mencken is his colossal nerve in telling them the truth about their "God's country."

ONE OF WHITE UNEMPLOYED  
WRITES GRATEFULLY OF FEED-  
ING DONE BY COLORED

*Guardian*  
Real Charity

To the Editor of the Post:

Sir—I am one of the army of the unemployed. I think everyone should know the good that the two colored churches in the South End are doing. They are feeding hundreds every day.

I am a white fellow and we appreciate what they are doing, as more white fellows apply there than colored, and no one is turned away. Doesn't this make us stop and think that we ought to give the colored people a break, after mistreating them so long?

*Pastor Klugh* OUT OF WORK.

(The author of the above expression in the Post gave the clipping to Rev. J. C. Williams.)

**COLORED FEED WHITES**

*Guardian*  
TABLES ARE TURNED — PASTOR  
KLUGH POINTS OUT TRAGIC  
NEED — GOVERNMENT AT  
.. FAULT 2-14-31

The People's Church and Pastor are still feeding the hungry and unemployed. Hundreds of both white and colored, Catholics and Protestants and non-Christians are eating at the same table, and there is no discrimination or dissatisfaction. The sons of ex-slave masters are begging bread at the hands of the sons of ex-slaves. This is a dramatic but unwarranted situation. In His beautiful world, God has provided abundant to feed and clothe all His children. More than 3,500,000 people in the U. S. are without employment and therefore without proper food, clothing and shelter.

In a country like ours this should not be. Something is radically wrong. Is it, or is not the duty of our government to so regulate our industrial and economic relations so as to give employment to all its people that they may have the common necessities of life? Let some big politician or statesman answer.

D. S. KLUGH, Pastor.

# Relief Workers Ousted for Failure to Segregate Race

[Chicago Defender Press Service]

HATTIESBURG, Miss., Feb.

20.—Because he couldn't inject Mississippi tactics into the local branch of the Red Cross, Mayor W. F. S. Tatum called on Forest county chapter of the relief body Thursday to vacate its offices in the city hall.

The eviction followed the refusal on the part of J. Claude Fields, chairman of the chapter, to permit only whites to come to the city hall for clothing and food as demanded by the mayor. Other races were to get their rations at a separate place. When a meeting was called by the local Red Cross chapter, to which the mayor was invited, the city head stated that his demand was based on the belief that serious racial troubles would result in the nondiscriminatory practices of Forrest county chapter. He asserted that several of the poor whites who had come to get relief threatened to start violence because they were served over the same table with needy other races.

Mrs. Margaret Butler Bishop, representative of the National Red Cross, replied that the Red Cross did not sponsor segregation of the races in relief, and that those who sought to cause trouble should not come begging for aid.

All the belongings of the organization were moved to the sidewalk by the mayor's attendants and for two hours the relief workers had no place to go.

The body moved to a building adjacent to the city hall at the suggestion of Thomas Ferguson, local real estate dealer, who backed the Red Cross in its fight for a square deal for everybody.

Shortly after Ferguson donated space in his building, Matt Press, manager of a theater here, donated a storeroom next to his place. The second place is being used to keep clothing.

Two hours after moving from the city hall the group was administering relief as before. The organization had maintained headquarters in the

city hall for two years until receiving Mayor Tatum's request to move.

Many are of the opinion that the request on the part of the mayor was done as a political move with Race hatred as a platform. The Red Cross is being backed by the leading citizens of the town.

Chattanooga, Tenn.

NEWS

FEB 4 1931  
To His Uncle Sam

An ante-bellum negro, a former slave, unable to work, wrote to Uncle Sam for assistance. Knowing nothing of the dangers of paternalism, or the virtues of private initiative, he could not realize that he was practically asking for a "dole." His letter follows:

Laurel, Miss.

Jan. 13, 1931.

Washington, D. C.

Dear Uncle Sam.

Dear Sir:

Just a few lines to let you here from me. I am writting to you for help. Will you please help me. I am not able to work at all. I have been here every sence slave time. When that furst cotton was made. I am nintey six years old and not able to work, plese help me at once. You no I need help plese sir I heard it was some peace for me. Plese write to me and let me here from you at once. Will you plese help me at once, plese Mr. Government, let me here from you at once. I need help, plese help me at once. I am ninety six years old, cant do no work at all. Not able to. Well let me here from you at once, plese. Yes sir, I need help, plese sir. So I will close, from  
W. M. CLUHUN,  
613 S. 7th St.

The Postoffice Department, perhaps, was in a quandary. It didn't know whether to mark the envelope "no such person," or "insufficiently addressed," or whatnot. The letter finally found its way to the Red Cross, which is the nearest to an Uncle Sam for 96-year-old former slaves that we have.

# URBAN LEAGUE ANN'L DINNER

Dr. Robert E. Park of Chicago Univ., Delivers Address. John T. Clark, Secretary, Makes Annual Report.

At the annual meeting of the local Urban League, which was held in the auditorium of Peoples Finance Building, Tuesday night, Dr. Robt. E. Park, of Chicago, was the principal speaker.

Dr. Park is professor of sociology of the University of Chicago, and an authority on the subject of race relations. He is a graduate of Howard University and was assistant professor of Philosophy at that institution for two years. He is the author of a number of books on Sociology.

During his forty minutes talk, Dr. Park entertained and enlightened his audience by reciting bits of history of the Negroes in this country especially as it relates to the white people before the Civil War. He said the Negroes have made their contribution, and proved their worth to this nation by working out their salvation under the most difficult circumstances; under which conditions it is highly probable that others would have failed. "For after all," said Dr. Park, "it is those things which we overcome that count."

Other features of the meeting were the annual report of John T. Clark, the executive secretary of the local league, and spiritual selections by the Missouri Pacific Quartette. Mr. Clark's report dealt with the economic and social life of the Negroes in this city, showing the part the Urban League had had in helping the group adjust itself to the changing conditions.

Six directors were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Miss Sarah Young, Atty. Joseph L. McLemore, Rev. Noah Williams, Prof. F. F. Sims and Mrs. Geo. H. Gelhorn. Mr. Jas. L. Usher, presided.

## SUPPORT THE HOUSEWIVES' LEAGUE

The Housewives' league which was recently organized has potentialities of becoming a great and useful organization, especially to the colored people of this city. We speak of its potentialities of becoming great because it is a woman's organization, one just a little different from the others; an organization which challenges the women to get out of the social whirl for a little season and direct their thoughts, their time, their intelligence, and their energy to business.

A recent survey of the activities of our women shows that most of them have a deal of time on their hands. This time is taken up in thought, for the most part of the social side of life. It is quite common for a matron to call together one or two hundred of her sex for a bridge or whist party where five or six hours are spent to the tune of fifty or one hundred dollars. These things are all right in their places, but, in times like these, surely this intelligence could be used to a greater advantage to not only themselves but to the entire group. Surely, this is the time in our economic life for us to think, think of what we are doing and then think of what we could do if we would only think. What are these women contributing to our well-being?

Just recently four hundred responded to a call to attend a bridge party, and, according to the report, everybody there had a good time. A short time afterwards, a call was made for those same women to attend a Housewives' league meeting, the purpose of which was to discuss ways and means of helping their race economically; and about twenty were present. According to reports, they were, for the most part, in a hurry, in bad humor, and thought that they had made a great sacrifice when they remained until 10:00 o'clock.

Surely, there is something wrong with our thinking. The Psalmist said, "I thought on my way and turned my feet." Is it not time for us to think on our way? Can't we see that the direction in which we are going is leading us from, rather than toward, the things which we need most. Let the women begin to think, and the economic change in our affairs will be marvelous. The one big purpose of the Housewives' league is to set the women to thinking.

Twenty women at Housewives' league, counseling on ways and means of helping the business and professional men and women to the end that our whole economic structure be strengthened, are rendering by far more real service to the race than four hundred women at a whist party.

## COMMUNITY FUND COLORED DIVISION

### GETS GOOD START

NOV 13 1931

Workers Make Fine Report

As Drive Is On, Response

Is Good With Week Left

To Reach Quota

Chairman Garner Issues A

Statement Why All

Should Give

The workers of the Colored Division of the 1931 Community Fund Campaign got off to a very good start at their first report meeting Tuesday evening at the Pine Street "Y". Three inspiring addresses were delivered to the workers, pointing out this year's needs and also the kind of effort that should be put forth if the Drive is to be successful. The speakers were Mr. Frank L. Williams, Chairman of the Board of Managers of the Pine Street "Y", Rev. J. Milton Thompson, Pastor of Berea Presbyterian Church and Mr. Robert W. Kelso, Executive Secretary of the Community Fund. Mr. Williams brought a very interesting bit of news to the workers when he mentioned the fact that Superintendent Gerling of the School Division would permit the amount subscribed by the Colored Teachers to be counted with the Colored Division.

#### Good Response Is Shown

The reports for the evening were rather interesting. The Social Worker Leader reported that five Social Service Organizations had gone over the top in their subscriptions with all of the employees subscribing 1% and more. The organizations that reported as being over were, The Orphans Home, Old Folks Home, Peoples Hospital and Y. M. C. A. The leaders of the Dentist and Lawyers' Division made good reports. Over 60% of the Dentists have already subscribed, with about 45% of the Lawyers. The Lawyers' report showed that General Chairman Garner has increased his subscription 75% over last year. Another interesting report came from the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Last year they gave \$30.00. This year their subscription was increased to \$80.00.

The Community Fund Drive presents a different problem this year from any previous year. First, we must have more money; second, here are less people able to give than heretofore. Yet, we must get

a larger sum than we did last year in order to take care of the situation. Because of such conditions, as above described, new methods of approach have been set up this year with the hope that our goal will be reached. Our school teachers are giving in a group and are also giving their active services in whatever way they may. The Negro professional men are called on to give in a group. So it is with the various units, such as the nurses, social workers, business men, etc.

In the interest of the good citizenship of the Negro people of this city, I appeal to all of you to stand up 100 per cent in this drive. We must not fail; we will not fail; we cannot fail. In the columns of the papers will appear the showings made by the various groups.

To the regional chairmen: Take notice that a very nicely worked-out arrangement has been made whereby, in the final windups, each region will be credited with the work of the special group in that region. For instance, Mrs. Nevins' region will finally get credit for the showing that the business men make. Other regions will get similar credits. Now let's go to it.

S. E. GARNER, Gen. Chairman.

## RELIEF TASK IS FACED IN KANSAS CITY

Appropriations To Help The Needy Colored Persons Are Held To Be Far Below Sum That Is Needed

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Oct. 29 — Kansas City Relief agencies have expressed concern over the problem of caring for 50,000 colored citizens here this winter with \$49,698 appropriated for that purpose from the Allied Charities fund. Colored Kansas Cityans, as a unit being "hired last and fired first," have the lowest earning power of any group here, yet in the 1930 charity drive they raised \$10,000.

Face Difficult Situation Agencies grouped under the Federation of Colored Charities are Wheatley Provident hospital, Niles Home for Colored Children, Florence

Home for Colored Girls, the Kansas City Urban League, and North Side Day Nursery.

Dr. W. K. Bruce, superintendent of Wheatley Provident hospital, says the Colored population of Kansas City faces a long, hard winter because the odd jobs upon which so many colored families depend for livelihood are scarce, and because the average income of the employed Negro probably will not exceed \$60 a month.

Aside from General hospital No. 2, the only institution where destitute Negroes can obtain free medical attention in Kansas City is Wheatley Provident.

#### Serving An Important Need

"The \$17,000 our hospital was allotted for 1931 from the charities fund went to pay the cost of treatment of penniless colored person seeking our care, and to make up the difference between the cost of treatment and the small amount some patients were able to pay," Dr. Bruce said.

A children's department, rendering the same service to Race children as that given other children by Mercy hospital, also is maintained at Wheatley Provident.

Besides the 649 bed patients treated in the hospital last year, between 400 and 500 were given treatment in the outpatient department each month, according to Dr. Bruce.

"More and more persons unable to pay are seeking help from us daily," Dr. Bruce said. "The hospital is asking \$3,000 more this year than last from the charities fund, and even this increase would be inadequate to pay for the increased charity treatment we will have to give."

A particular need of the hospital is a fund with which to provide free medicine for destitute persons. At present, many patients who are given free medical advice are unable to purchase the corrective medicine prescribed.

"A noticeable thing about the gifts to charity of Negroes is that the contributions made every year come from a comparative few, who annually give to the limit to help alleviate the burdens of their brothers," Dr. Bruce commented. "And whatever amount the Negroes give is, certainly, comparable with the 'widows mite.'"

# TEACHERS BOOST FUND DRIVE NEAR TO \$23,000 QUOTA

Gift Of \$11,000 From The Young Negro School Group Proves A Major Aid To Colored Division

## EXPECT TO REACH GOAL

Campaign For \$3,000,000 Is To Close This Friday Afternoon Being Extended In Time

The Colored Division's money drive in the \$3,000,000 Community Fund drive sprang from the discouraging sum of a little more than \$4,000 last week to \$18,000 at the report of the division Tuesday at the Pine St. Y. M. C. A. The encouraging advancement to within a little less than \$4,000 of the quota gave high hopes that the division's mark of \$23,000 would be reached when the extended period of the drive closes this Friday. Atty. S. E. Garner, chairman of the Colored Division, sent out a last minute appeal for colored St. Louisans who have not yet ready given to contribute all they can to the fund to meet the needs of the needy.

#### 'Bring Up The Rear'

The outstanding report received by the Colored Division was given by M. J. Gilliam, when he reported a total of \$11,000 subscribed by the teachers in the colored public schools. The post office men made the next highest report with a total of \$1,307.50. The social workers next with a total of \$1,154. The receipt of a check for \$200 from Mrs. Annie M. Malone, head of Poro College, was reported.

Regional directors in the drive are Mrs. J. J. Nevins, Mrs. Myrtle McKinney, Mrs. A. N. Vaughn and Jas. Scott. Leaders of various groups are Rev. J. A. Dames, Atty. S. B. Redmond, Miss Auretha Hangel, C. S. Falls, Ralph Turner, G. D. Bramley, C. K. Baker and O. C. Madsen.

The Young Negro Welfare League Plans Expansion

The Young Negro National Welfare League is making it possible for all the churches, schools, clubs and other organizations of the city to have representation in the league.

The league is working for mutual improvement in the industrial, educational, economical, political, religious and social welfare of the Negro. Its aim is to weld cohesive and articulate whole every Negro, young and old. To do this, efforts are made to deal with projects sufficiently far-reaching to challenge interest and bring together members of the race.

#### Receives Good Response

Bernard Davis, National Organizer of the league, in speaking of the success of the organization, stated:

"The experience we have had with our league has been very satisfactory. The program has been enthusiastically supported. Both young and old have pledged themselves to cooperate with the patriotic race movement."

"We have received invitations to organize branches in many cities including Chicago, Kansas City, Washington, D. C., Columbus, O., Springfield, Illinois, E. St. Louis, Cape Girardeau, Poplar Bluff, Tulsa and Boonville. Plans are underway to organize in these cities in the near future."

Charles Evans, president of the league's local branch, is seeking the cooperation of every colored citizen. Meetings are held each Friday evening at 8:30 o'clock at the Pine St. Y. M. C. A.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1931

# BETTER HOUSING NEED OF NEGROES, HOOVER IS TOLD

## Commission Listens To Reports From Sev- eral Experts

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(By T. W. Anderson, Staff Correspondent of (ANP))—The Committee on Negro Housing in session December 2-5, here, proposed to the President's conference a number of steps to improve the housing situation of this large section of the population. These include among other things the establishment of a national housing commission to carry on research and encourage the passing and enforcement of adequate housing laws; the stimulation of Negroes to move into sub-division in which modern homes can be built, adequate financing agencies at reasonable interest for people of low incomes, and researches on subjects such as changes in land values incident to Negro invasion of an area.

The committee's report to the conference was based upon an analysis of recent studies made in most of the large cities of the North and South and on a limited number of surveys of Negro housing in the rural South.

**Review of Reported Conditions**  
The rapid increase of the Negro population has not been accompanied by an expansion of Negro neighborhoods. The result is a serious overcrowding. Thus Negro density was twice as great as the average in Chicago and nearly five times as great in Philadelphia. In New York City the total density for the city was 223 per acre, while the Negro density was 336 per acre. A study of a group of low-income families in New York showed the typical rental for such groups to be \$316, annually, whereas for Negroes it is \$490.

A one-day inspection of 63 houses in the Negro section of Philadelphia by Bernard J. Newman, of the Philadelphia Housing Association uncovered 90 violations of the Housing Law, such as obstructed drainage, disrepair, and accumulation of rubbish. These were due to general neglect, the report showed.

Racial segregation complicates the housing problem for Negroes. In the South custom controls the racial residential sites to a large degree. In the border states segregation ordinances have been sought to do this. In the North segregation is attempted by private covenants between property owners to exclude Negroes from certain areas.

Concerning the social consequences of the type of housing provided for the Negro population, the committee reported that over-crowding and un-

sanitary conditions result directly in: (1) high rate of delinquency; (2) a high rate of mortality; and (3) a distorted standard of living. It quoted the report of the cause of crime published by the National Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement to show that the same results arose from similar conditions among other groups of the population and were, therefore, not inherent in the Negro character.

### Alleys Lead to Death

The Negro death rate, it was revealed, is nearly twice as high, as the white, and higher in the North than in the South. Analysis of one death rate, made in Washington, developed the fact that the mortality of Negroes from four leading diseases is from 1½ times to 4 times as great in the alley dwellings as in those on the streets.

Summaries made in Chicago, Pittsburgh, New York, and other cities, showed that the Negro's rent takes over 20 per cent of his budget, and in some instances is even more than 75 percent. In New York, for example, the income of the Negro family is about 17% lower than that of the typical family for the entire city, and yet it must pay almost \$3.00 more per room per month.

The committee further reported that home buying in Northern cities has about doubled since 1920. For the country as a whole there were 506,590 home owners in 1910; The Negro Year Book estimates that this number had increased to 750,000 in 1930. In 1886 the Negro population owned only about 12,000 homes.

### Low Credits Probed

A survey on the low credit rating of Negroes was made, and a report showed a tendency of Negroes to stand the test of home buying and credit and thus encourage better credit for themselves. The Michigan Boulevard Garden Apartments in Chicago and the Paul Lawrence Dunbar Apartments in New York City were lauded as notable examples of modern housing projects for Negroes.

In his speech over two national networks of radio broadcasting systems, President Hoover stressed the purpose of his Housing and Home Ownership Conference with the remarks that it was meant for the benefit of every person in America, "with-out regard to race or qualifications."

President Hoover's address was delivered on Wednesday night following the opening of the Conference, and was attended by the representatives of the gathering, from every part of the country.

## REPORTS TO PRESIDENT TODAY ON NEGRO HOMES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—A factual picture of the conditions of Negro

housing in all sections of the country will be presented to the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership when it meets in Washington, December 2 to 5, by a committee of representative civic leaders. Overcrowding, dilapidated structures with primitive sanitary arrangements, high rents, and unusual difficulties in financing home ownership are the rule rather than the ex-

ception in Negro housing, the committee has found from an analysis of studies made in recent years in all centers of Negro population.

## FINDS NEGRO HOMES IN CITIES WRETCHED

Hoover Committee Reports  
Overcrowding in Dilapidated

Structures Is the Rule.

## HOME OWNERSHIP DIFFICULT

Rent Higher Than in White Areas—  
Chances for Better Dwellings Rare  
With Land Too Costly.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—A low level of Negro housing conditions in practically all parts of the United States is pictured in a report which the Committee on Negro Housing of President Hoover's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership will present at the National conference here Dec. 2 to 5.

From an analysis of studies made in recent years in all centres of Negro population, the committee found "overcrowding, dilapidated structures with primitive sanitary arrangements, high rents and unusual difficulties in financing home ownership are the rule rather than the exception in Negro housing."

The committee stated that studies made in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis and Albany show that only from 9 to 50 per cent of the buildings meet moderate standards.

The Negroes in the large Northern cities also have to pay excessive rentals, "considerably higher amount than is paid by white families who preceded them, or who are living in similar properties," and this "is the result of the limitation of available dwellings for this element of the population."

The average rental per room for housing of low-income groups in New York is \$6.67, whereas for Negroes it is \$9.50, the committee found.

Social problems connected with Negro housing conditions have been greatly intensified by the movement to cities definitely noted in 1880 and accelerated in pace ever since, the report says.

"During the past decade the Negro population in urban centres increased 32.3 per cent, whereas the rural areas showed a decrease of 3.3 per cent. Typical of this movement is the increase in Negroes in New York from 91,709 in 1910, to 327,706 in 1930."

What happens to the Negro immigrant to the Northern industrial cities is thus stated by the committee:

"The level of Negro income points him toward the sections of low-priced dwellings. From the new developments Negroes are almost universally debarred. The available houses, thus, are limited to these run-down areas. Few repairs are made and eventually a point is reached at which it is more profitable to admit Negroes than to lower the rentals further. Few new houses are built in the Negro areas. The standards embodied in building ordinances and sanitary codes thus cannot easily be applied to their dwellings. The chances for improvement are extremely rare. Property is difficult to buy because land takes on new valuation in areas potentially useful for business."

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

EAGLE

NOV 29 1931

## A Housing Anomaly.

Many surprising as well as shocking facts appear in the report on city housing conditions among Negroes, which is to be placed before President Hoover's Conference on Home Owning next month. For example, it is revealed that the average monthly rental for white people in the lower income groups is \$6.67 a room. Negroes pay on an average of \$9.58 a room. As every one knows, Negroes in New York City get the very poorest housing, yet they pay outrageously for these unsanitary and indecent quarters.

It has been demonstrated here by the Brooklyn Gardens Apartments that model apartments can be built to rent for slightly more than \$10 a room with heat, sunlight and other advantages found in up-to-date apartments and pay 6 percent on the investment. This is only a little more than is charged Negroes for the worst housing in New York City.

Obviously, something is radically wrong with the whole system of home building and renting. Such anomalies should help to shock governments and private interests into some appreciation of this problem.

Wiping out slums is no longer an idle dream springing from purely humanitarian impulses. Broadly considered, this great need for decent housing offers the best opportunity we now have of stimulating activities that will restore prosperity, as well as correct conditions that are a disgrace to our civilization and a menace to health and order.

DEC 4 1931

## Steps to Improve Housing Conditions In Negro Districts Are Recommended

On the basis of a factual picture that showed a large majority of the Negro population of this country living under conditions that are inimical to health, morality and contentment and from which special racial factors make it difficult to escape, the Committee on Negro Housing proposed to the conference number of steps to improve the housing situation of this large section of the population. These steps included among other things the establishment of a national housing commission to carry out research and encourage the passing and enforcement of adequate housing laws; the stimulation of Negroes to move into subdivisions in which modern homes can be built; adequate financing agencies at reasonable interest for people of low incomes; and researches on subjects such as changes in land values incident to Negro invasion of an area.

The committee report to the conference was based upon an analysis of recent studies made in most of the large cities of the North and South and on a limited number of surveys of Negro housing in the rural South.

Herewith is a summary of the report: The Negro population in 1930 was nearly 12,000,000 or about 10 per cent of the country's total. Four-fifths of this population is in the South. The movement to cities is accelerating. Between 1910 and 1920 the rate of increase for urban centers was 32.3 per cent, while the rural areas showed an actual decrease of 3.3 per cent. Typical of this movement is the increase in Negroes in New York from 91,709 in 1910 to 327,706 in 1930.

### Insufficient Housing Said to Cause High Rent

The rapid increase in Negro population has not been accompanied by an expansion of Negro neighborhoods. The result is serious overcrowding. Thus Negro density was twice as great as the total in Chicago and nearly five times as great in Philadelphia. In New York City the total density for the city was 223 per acre while the Negro density was 336 per acre.

This overcrowding comes about largely from conditions over which Negroes have little control. First, the incomes of the majority are too small to permit them to move into more open and more extensive neighborhoods. Second, racial factors make it almost impossible for them to move into better neighborhoods even if they can afford it.

Insufficient housing causes high rents. For example, a study of a group of low income families in New York showed that typical rental for all such groups to be \$316 annually whereas for the Negroes it was \$490.

Adjustment to high rentals forces them taking in of lodgers to pay the rent, in creases overcrowding, and reduces family privacy with consequent evil effects.

The areas into which Negroes move are

to show that the same results arose from similar conditions among other groups of the population and were, therefore, not inherent in the Negro character. The difficulty is that whereas other groups can escape from overcrowding and bad housing with higher incomes, such escape is almost impossible for the Negro.

### Higher Mortality Rate Among Negroes Cited

Negro death rates are nearly twice as high as the whites; they are higher in the North than in the South, and higher in cities than in the country. To show how bad housing bears on the high death rate several studies were analyzed, one of which, made in Washington, brought out the fact that the mortality of Negroes from four leading diseases is from 1½ to 4 times as great in the alley dwellings as in those on the streets.

The fact that Negroes are required to spend a larger proportion of their incomes for rent than other groups is an important factor in keeping their living standards low. Summaries of studies made in Chicago, Pittsburgh, New York, and other cities showed that the Negro's rent runs over 20 per cent of his budget and in some instances is even more than 75 per cent. In New York, for example, the income of the Negro family is about 17 per cent lower than that of the typical family for the entire city and yet it must pay almost \$3 more per room per month. High rents and low wages mean working mothers, necessitate lodgers and—along with segregation—overcrowding.

As a result of studies on Negro home ownership, the Committee reported that home buying in northern cities has about doubled since 1920. For the country as a whole there were 506,590 home owners in 1910. The Negro Year Book estimates that this number had increased to 750,000 in 1930. In 1866 the Negro population owned only about 12,000 homes.

Home buying is obstructed by the fact that new housing developments are not freely open to Negroes, either in the North or in the South except where they are sponsored by Negroes or are exclusively for them. When these developments are sponsored by Negroes the lack of capital, the difficulty of securing municipal improvements, and the enforced removal from proximity to work render them too hazardous to encourage full Negro financial support.

### Difficulties of Negroes In Financing Homes

The financing of Negro home buying has been difficult because of the low security rating given by real estate loan concerns to property tenanted by Negroes. Because of this Negroes are charged more than white people for loans, and it more difficult to secure them, and are thus greatly handicapped in efforts to buy or improve property. The Committee found that one reason for this low credit rating was that Negroes are forced to buy in dilapidated areas and that, therefore, their properties are not good risks.

Recent investigations in Chicago disclose the fact that banks, white and black, charge a commission of from 6 per cent to 15 per cent on colored loans and 7 to 10 per cent interest.

Concerning Negroes as credit risks, the Committee analyzed the opinions of a large group of bankers and real estate dealers in Chicago given in 1928 which showed that Negroes are standing the test of borrowing for home buying and are steadily overcoming the prejudice against loaning money to them. "There is, however," the analysis stated, "a tendency to get behind in payments which makes

it necessary for those who collect to be both patient and persistent in keeping them regular."

The final section of the report of the Negro Committee concerned modern housing projects for Negroes, of which the Michigan Boulevard Apartments in Chicago and the Paul Lawrence Dunbar Apartments in New York City, are the most notable. The success of these projects has led to a movement in Detroit for the establishment of a similar project there. There are in scattered areas attempts to improve Negro housing by large-scale operations, but the number is so limited as yet that they do not greatly affect the average low standard of housing for Negroes throughout the United States.

The Committee is composed of a group of civic leaders of the Negro race who have given their time for months to assemble the facts of the present situation.

The reports of the Committee on Home Building and Home Ownership and on Kitchens and other Work Centers submitted to the President's Conference on Dec. 3 will be printed in full text in the issue of Dec. 5.

ROME, N. Y.  
SENTINEL

NOV 30 1931

### Negro Housing Status.

The committee on Negro housing of President Hoover's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership, has made public a report revealing a low level of housing conditions for the race in question. Doubtless that was to be expected. It would indeed have been astonishing had the picture been otherwise, when one considers that within the memory of thousands now living the greater portion of the Negroes in the United States were slaves, possessing no property whatever and given small encouragement to prepare themselves for a life of freedom.

Nor is it contrary to precedent, whatever may have been the expectations of some, that the present-day housing of Negroes in our large Northern cities is declared to be as bad as in the South. For up here the Negroes have been taking on the status of immigrants of the latest type—and nearly always the immigrant of that type has been forced to herd in antique and insanitary quarters. Without mentioning names to stir unpleasant memories, it may be said always from the early beginnings of the Colonies there has been some one class upon which those already on the ground have looked with disdain if not with aversion. Each in turn has been put through a course of probation much after the manner of a freshman class at college. After others arriving benefit from the experience of the first group and

are enabled to adjust themselves to conditions almost from the start.

In the case of the Negroes, while there have always been a few Negroes in the North, the northward movement of the last two decades has been so proportionately great as to overwhelm the native Negro populations of our cities. Thus in 1910 there were but 91,709 in New York City against 327,706 in 1930. In the past decade in the country as a whole the Negro population in urban centers increased 32.3 per cent, whereas the rural areas showed increase of only 3.3 per cent.

A somewhat singular inference has been drawn from the statement in the report that the average rental per room for housing of low-income groups in New York is \$6.67 whereas for Negroes it is \$9.50. It is suggested that, since experience has shown it impossible to erect modern tenement houses meeting all requirements as to sanitation at less than \$10 a room, the possibility seems open for supplying a considerable proportion of the Negroes with such homes whereas many thousands of whites would still be forced to occupy ancient buildings.

There would appear to be danger of a fallacy in such an argument. It seems to assume that Negroes can earn more, despite the recognized prejudice against them in so many quarters, than a large proportion of whites, else how can they meet the high rents now exacted of them? Yet the point may be the whites largely occupy the very cheap quarters in part from choice so as to eat more or save; whereas, since the Negroes are forced to expend a greater proportion of their income for rent, they might manage to make out on an average 50 cents more and so obtain vastly better quarters.

President Hoover appoints a colored housing commission for the purpose of improving the living conditions among our people. Social workers and educators with one exception compose this commission. The paucity of business men upon this and similar commissions demonstrate how cheaply our business activities are considered. This condition does not obtain among whites. The business magnates among the whites are chief dictators of social, political and economic problems. This condition very clearly evidences how top heavy the scheme and structure of colored affairs is. Business must be made prominent among us if we are to win a respectable status with dictators of American politics and commerce. Every effort should be bent to encourage and develop colored business. We cannot be successfully and intelligently led by social service workers, preachers, physicians and dentists alone. We need manufacturers, bankers and industrialists who will control the economic destinies of our people if we are to survive under the capitalistic system.

NEW YORK  
HERALD-TRIBUNE

APR 25 1931

## President Urges Better Standard Of Negro Homes

### Committee of 17 on Housing Study Hears Plea for Improvement in Conditions

From the Herald Tribune Bureau  
WASHINGTON, April 24.—President Hoover directed today to the Committee on Negro Housing, composed of seventeen prominent American Negroes, a message encouraging them to seek higher living standards. He later received most of the members of the committee in the business office of the White House.

The President's message, read by Robert P. Lamont, Secretary of Commerce, as the committee opened its organization meeting in the Commerce Department Building, urged the need of improving the design, construction and conditions of ownership of Negro housing. It appealed for a program of self-help and government co-operation looking to higher standards of sanitation, convenience and wholesomeness.

The President said:

Prompted by a fine spirit of public service, you have assembled here today to consider what program may be devised to improve conditions of housing for our colored citizens. This committee is one of many special committees, each of which is charged with some important phase of the broad problem of home building and home ownership. Since the health and welfare of all citizens, and particularly of children, are vitally affected by conditions of housing and home life, your committee has un-

seriously undertaken to give careful consideration to urgent questions which affect directly the welfare of more than 10,000,000 persons.

Your studies will lead you into the consideration of problems of the design, construction and financing of houses, of conditions of ownership and tenancy, of remodeling, equipping and furnishing of homes in city and country. Thoughtful consideration is needed in order to determine what can be accomplished by the Negroes themselves in the improvement of conditions of housing and home life and of what can be done by public authorities or other agencies to aid them in bringing housing conditions to higher standards of sanitation, convenience and wholesomeness. Wherever conditions are found to be below a reasonable standard the problem is one of determining what next steps can be best taken in improving the conditions, and how information and service can be mobilized to prevent future recurrence of conditions of housing that may impair health or character.

Many of you will doubtless be asked to help in the work of other committees, but I feel that a judicious consideration of the special problems assigned to this committee may lead to a service of unusual value to your country. Self-help is a primary principle of progress, but self-help involves wise stimulation and thoughtful leadership. It is my hope that you, who are among the acknowledged leaders of your race, may find in the work of this committee and opportunity to carry the study of this subject farther than it has been carried before, and that your recommendations may help to co-ordinate and direct the forces which will lead to a more rapid solution of the important problems of housing with which you are concerned.

The committee members later organized to consider in detail urban and rural housing and other factors in the situation of Negro communities.

NEW YORK TIMES

APR 26 1931

## HOOVER BOARD BEGINS NEGRO HOUSING STUDY

T. Arnold Hill Describes Conditions in Harlem—Migration of Negroes to North Is Marked.

Special to The New York Times.  
WASHINGTON, April 25.—Plans for a detailed study of Negro housing were drafted during the second of a series of conferences today by a special committee of President Hoover's conference on home building and home ownership.

T. Arnold Hill, New York City representative, was named chairman of a group to study the social and economic factors of the problem. He said that, although the primary purpose will be a determination of housing influences on the health, education and delinquency of urban and Negro populations, it was hoped to create a demand for new houses among his race, with a view to stimulating building construction.

His only conclusions in connection with Negro housing in New York City, he said, were that a great many Negroes in Harlem were paying more rent than they can afford and in a majority of cases, higher rents than white residents in that area. While the committee was laying the plans for its study, Joseph A. Hill, assistant director of the census, said there was an apparent movement of Negroes from their traditional sections of the South to the more industrially developed sections of the North.

The 1930 census returns showed, he said, that in Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina and Kentucky the Negro populations were less than a decade ago. In eight Southern States for which figures were available very slight increases over the Negro population of 1920 were shown.

On the other hand, the Northern States generally had larger Negro populations than in the preceding census. In Michigan alone the increase was from 60,082 in 1920 to 169,453 last year.

NEW YORK TIMES

APR 25 1931

## PRESIDENT WELCOMES NEGRO HOUSING GROUP

Hoover Urges Committee Starting Study to Stimulate People to Improve Homes.

Special to The New York Times.  
WASHINGTON, April 24.—President Hoover asked the special committee on Negro housing, which convened here today, to take the lead in stimulating and guiding Negroes in the improvement of their homes.

As head of the Conference of Home Building and Ownership, the President sent to the meeting the following message, which was read by Secretary of Commerce Lamont:

"Prompted by a fine spirit of public service, you have assembled here today to consider what program may be devised to improve conditions of housing for our colored citizens. This committee is one of the many special committees each of which is charged with some important phase of the broad problem of home building and home ownership. Since the health and welfare of all citizens, and particularly of children, are vitally affected by conditions of housing and home life, your committee has unselfishly undertaken to give careful consideration to urgent questions which affect directly the welfare of more than ten million persons.

"Your studies will lead you into the consideration of problems of the design, construction and financing of houses, of conditions of ownership and tenancy, of remodeling, equipping and furnishing of homes in city and country. Thoughtful consideration is needed in order to determine what can be accomplished by the Negroes themselves in the improvement of conditions of housing and home life and of what can be done by the public authorities or other agencies to aid them in bringing housing conditions to higher standards of sanitation, convenience and wholesomeness.

"Wherever conditions are found to be below a reasonable standard the problem is one of determining what next steps can best be taken in improving the conditions and how information and service can be mobilized to prevent such a recurrence of conditions of housing that may impair health or character.

"Many of you will doubtless be asked to help in the work of other committees, but I feel that a judicious consideration of the special problems assigned to this committee may lead to a service of unusual value to your country.

"Self-help is a primary principle of progress, but self-help involves wise stimulation and thoughtful leadership. It is my hope that you, who

are among the acknowledged leaders of your race, may find in the work of this committee an opportunity to carry the study of this subject further than it has been carried before, and that your recommendation may help to coordinate and direct the forces which will lead to a more rapid solution of the important problems of housing with which you are concerned."

## CITIES OF NORTH CROWDED, SOUTH IS UNSANITARY

Hoover Housing Committee in Session in D.C., December 2-5.

### ROOMERS TAKEN

Reports Show How Families Double Up.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Colored homes in the North are more crowded than in the South, but those in the South are more unsanitary than those in the North, President Hoover's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership was told this week.

#### The Committee

The conference, headed by Secretary Lamont of the Department of Commerce, and Secretary Wilkins of the Interior Department, has the following colored members, who constitute a committee on Negro Housing:

Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, D.C., chairman; Charles S. Johnson, Fisk U., secretary; George R. Arthur, Chicago; L. T. Burbage, president, La. Life Ins. Co., New Orleans; Joseph S. Clark, president, Southern University, Baton Rouge; Mrs. Irene M. Gaines, Chicago Urban League, Chicago; Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon, special investigator, Department of Public Welfare, Philadelphia; Lorenzo J. Greene, investigator, the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, Inc., Washington; W. J. Hale, president, Tennessee A. and I., College, Nashville; Gordon B. Hancock, Union University, Richmond; Leon R. Harris, editor, The Modern Farmer, Moline; T. Arnold Hill, National Urban League, New York; Benjamin F. Hubert, president, Georgia State College; Zachary T. Hubert, ex-president, A. and M. Univ., Langston; Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkins, regional field secretary, N.A.A.C.P., New York; Moses McKissack, architect, Nashville; Robert R. Moton, Tuskegee; John E. Nail, realtor, New York; Samuel W. Rutherford, Mgr. Keystone Life Ins. Co., Philadelphia; Miss Fannie C. Williams, president, National Association of Teachers, New Orleans; Mrs. F. C. Williams, supervisor, T.B. work, Little Rock; Robert H. Hogan, contractor, Lexington, Ky.

#### Congestion

Because colored people flocked to cities in the past ten years, the re-

port shows that rural population decreased 3.3 per cent, while city population increased 33.1-3 per cent. In twenty years New York City's population increased nearly 400 per cent.

Once in the cities, says the report, the level of the colored family's income points them to low priced dwellings, run-down areas, where few repairs are made and where it is impracticable to build new homes.

#### Doubling Up

With populations constantly increasing and neither new houses nor new areas available to the colored people, what happens, according to the committee, is constant doubling up.

Forty per cent of the colored and Mexican one-family households in Chicago, for example, were found to be taking in lodgers in 1925.

The density of colored population, according to the committee, was twice as great as the total in Chicago, and nearly five times as great in Philadelphia.

"In New York City, where population density is in a measure compensated by high buildings, the total density for the city was 223, while the colored density was 336 per acre, although colored people have comparatively few apartments high enough to require elevators."

#### High Rents

Not only do the colored people in the large Northern cities have to live in over-crowded and below-standard dwellings, but they have, also, the committee reports, to pay excessive rentals, "considerably higher amount than is paid by white families who preceded them, or who are living in similar properties. This is the result of the limitation of available dwellings for this element of the population." In support of this statement, the committee presents figures in a number of cities. The average rental per room for housing of low-income groups in New York is \$6.67 whereas for colored people it is \$9.50.

#### South Unsanitary

On the question of deficiencies in sanitation in the South, the report states: "This is illustrated by a summary of the findings of a study of housing in Richmond, Virginia, by a Richmond newspaper. This showed that 'at least half of the dwellings are in various stages of dilapidation; that less than one of every eight houses has plumbing facilities inside the house; that but one in three has a water connection inside the house; and that 14 per cent have neither kitchen nor bath room.' Similar reports are quoted from other Southern cities."

# Negro Housing Wretched In Cities, Report Shows Overcrowding Affecting Rents Higher Than in White Areas; Chances for Better Dwellings Rare

WASHINGTON. — A low level of Negro housing conditions in practically all parts of the United States is pictured in a report which the Committee on Negro Housing of President Hoover's Home Ownership will present at the national conference here December 2 to 5.

From an analysis of studies made in recent years in all centers of Negro population, the committee found "overcrowding, dilapidated structures with primitive sanitary arrangements, high rents and unusual difficulties in financing home ownership are the rule rather than the exception in Negro housing."

The committee stated that studies made in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis and Albany show that only from 9 to 50 per cent of the buildings meet moderate standards.

The Negroes in the large Northern cities also have to pay excessive rentals, "considerable higher amounts than are paid by white families who preceded them, or who are living in similar properties," and this "is the result of the limitation of available dwelling for this element of the population."

The average rental per room for housing of low-income groups in New York is \$6.67, whereas for Negroes it is \$9.58, the committee found.

Social problems connected with Negro housing conditions have been greatly intensified by the movement to cities definitely noted in 1880 and accelerated in pace ever since, the report says:

"During the past decade the Negro population in urban centers increased 32.3 per cent, whereas the rural areas showed a decrease of 3.3 per cent. Typical of this movement is the increase in Negroes in New York from 91,709 in 1910, to 327,706 in 1930."

What happens to the Negro immigrant to the Northern industrial cities

is thus stated by the committee:

"The level of Negro income points him toward the sections of low-priced dwellings. From the new developments Negroes are almost universally barred. The available houses thus are limited to these run-down areas. Few repairs are made and eventually a point is reached at which it is more profitable to admit Negroes than to lower the rentals further. Few new houses are built in the Negro areas.

The standards embodied in building ordinances and sanitary codes thus cannot easily be applied to their dwellings. The chances for improvement are extremely rare. Property is difficult to buy because land takes on new valuation in areas potentially useful for business."

## OVERCROWDING AND HIGH RENTS IS TYPICAL OF NEGRO HOUSING

Level Of Colored Citizens' Income Points Him Toward Sections Of Low Priced Dwellings

WASHINGTON, December 4.—The new developments Negroes are almost universally debarred.

#### Few Houses Built

Few new houses are built in Negro areas. The standards embodied in building ordinances and sanitary codes thus cannot easily be applied to their dwellings. The chances for improvement are extremely rare. As to Negro housing in the south, the committee reports that "there is more congestion in the North than in the south, but the extent of tolerance of gross deficiencies in sanitation is greater in the south than in the north." This is illustrated by a summary of the findings of a study of Negro housing in Richmond, Va., made under the auspices of the Richmond News-Leader.

#### Committee One Of 31

The findings of the committee were based on an analysis of studies made in recent years in all centers of Negro population.

The movement to cities, definitely noted in 1880 and accelerating in pace ever since, has greatly intensified the social problems connected with Negro housing. During the past decade the Negro population in urban centers increased 32.3

per cent whereas the rural areas showed a decrease of 3.3 per cent.

What happens to the Negro immigrant to the northern industrial cities is thus stated by the committee: "The level of Negro income points him toward the sections of low-priced dwellings. Real estate operators and home building concerns or individuals finds it imprac-

ing projects for Negroes.

The committee on Negro housing is one of thirty-one appointed by the President to assemble the facts on every phase of the housing situation in this country. The committee members are authorities in the fields covered by their committees and have given their services voluntarily to the conference work.

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As to Negro housing in the south, the committee reports that "there is more congestion in the North than in the south, but the extent of tolerance of gross deficiencies in sanitation is greater in the south than in the north." This is illustrated by a summary of the findings of a study of Negro housing in Richmond, Va., made under the auspices of the Richmond News-Leader.

In addition to this survey of the physical aspects of Negro housing, throughout the country, the committee has assembled the facts on Negro housing and the community, which involves particularly the subject of segregation; the facts on social and economic factors, such as delinquency, morality and living standards of Negroes; on financing of Negro home buying, and on hous-

# NANNIE BURROUGHS HEADS PRESIDENT'S HOUSING COMMITTEE

Washington, D. C., April 22—(By ANP)—President Hoover named Nannie H. Burroughs to head the National Committee on Negro Housing and names nineteen other representative men and women to be associated with her.

The committee is a part of the President's National Conference which he is now organizing to study the entire field of Home Building and Home Ownership. It is understood that Miss Burroughs was appointed after a most careful and thorough consideration of a number of outstanding men and women who have been vitally interested in and connected with agencies that stand for the improvement of Negro home life. The President wanted a nationally known person who had shown personal initiative and constructive ability as a practical and successful leader in helping to improve home conditions. Miss Burroughs is not only training women to improve home conditions, but she has contributed a number of articles to newspapers and magazines on the subject, and she devotes much time in public addresses, to pleading for better homes.

The other members of the committee are: Dr. Robert R. Moton, Alabama; Charles S. Johnson, Tennessee; Gordon Blaine Hancock, Virginia; George R. Arthur, Illinois; Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon, Pennsylvania; T. Arnold Hill, New York; Mrs. Fannie C. Williams, Louisiana; Dr. Joseph S. Clark, Louisiana; Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines, Illinois; Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, Pennsylvania; Lorenzo J. Greene, District of Columbia; W. J. Hale, Tennessee; Leon R. Harris, Tennessee; Dr. Z. T. Hubert, Oklahoma; Mrs. F. C. Williams, Arkansas; Benjamin F. Hubert, Georgia, and R. H. Hogan, Kentucky.

The study is to cover standardization, design, construction, fundamental equipment, leasing, financing, adequacy in quality, and quantity to meet the demands of income of various groups, equitableness of cost, and ownership, among urban and rural and farm populations for the definite purpose of obviating present difficulties and promoting adequate housing for

Negro citizens.

By coordination and cooperation the entire membership of the National Conference will give "the widest possible support" in this particular study.

## NEGRO HOUSING COMMITTEE NAMED BY THE PRESIDENT

Washington.—(CNS)—President Hoover has named Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls, Lincoln Height, District of Columbia, to head a national committee on Negro Housing.

Aims and purposes of the committee are similar to those of the National Association of Colored Women, which has carried on a program of development of standards of home life among Negroes for several years. Sixteen other representative colored men and women have been named on the committee.

The national committee will meet here with President Hoover April 24 and 25.

Its membership consists of Dr. Robert R. Moton, Alabama; Charles S. Johnson, Tennessee; Gordon Blaine Hancock, Virginia; George B. Arthur, Illinois; Lena Trent Gordon, Pennsylvania; T. Arnold Hill, New York; Fannie C. Williams, Louisiana; Dr. Joseph S. Clark, Louisiana; Irene McCoy Gaines, Illinois; Daisy Lampkin, Pennsylvania; Lorenzo J. Greene, District of Columbia; W. J. Hale, Tennessee; Leon T. Harris, Tennessee; Dr. Z. T. Hubert, Oklahoma; Mrs. F. C. Williams, Arkansas, and Benjamin F. Hubert, Georgia. On the committee also will be two nationally known architects and builders.

## NEW YORK TIMES

APR 23 1931

## CONFERENCE TACKLES NEGRO HOUSING SURVEY

Special Committee Will Meet at the Capital Tomorrow to Outline Its Procedure.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—A study of conditions relating to Negro housing, both rural and urban, will be undertaken by a special committee of President Hoover's conference on home building and home ownership.

All members of the committee are Negroes. They will meet in Washington Friday to lay plans for the study. They will be addressed by Secretary Lamont.

Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls at Washington, will be chairman of the committee. T. Arnold Hill of New York City will represent New York.

Other members are George R. Arthur of Chicago, Joseph S. Clark of Baton Rouge, La.; Mrs. Irene M. Gaines of Chicago, Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon of Philadelphia, Lorenzo J. Greene of Washington, D. C.; W. J. Hale of Nashville, Tenn.; Gordon B. Hancock of Richmond, Va.; Leon R. Harris of Moline, Ill.; Miss Fannie C. Williams of New Orleans, R. H. Hogan of Lexington, Ky.; Benjamin F. Hubert of the Industrial College of Georgia, Zack Hubert of Langston, Okla.; Charles S. Johnson of Nashville, Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin of Pittsburgh, Robert R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute and Mrs. F. C. Williams of Little Rock, Ark.

Discussing the work of the committee, Dr. John M. Gries, executive secretary of the Hoover conference on home building and ownership, stated:

"The relative lack of funds hitherto available for Negro house construction, the problems of community attention to possibilities of improving conditions in this field, and other factors have, in the past, been responsible for the rather general prevalence of substandard conditions of shelter for a large proportion of the American colored population.

"Much improvement has been made in recent years, however, and the examples afforded of this progress are available to guide extension of the accomplishment. The committee will subdivide its investigation into phases of home financing, designing and other aspects of Negro housing in such manner as seems most likely to procure desired results."

## VARIOUS HOUSING PROBLEMS WERE CONSIDERED

Moton Not Present. Sub-Committees Are to Meet Before General Body

President Hoover's Housing Committee with Miss Nannie H. Burroughs as chairman, met here Friday and Saturday, and organized. Many problems were brought to their attention, and after receiving the President's message and an address by Secretary Lamont, the committee swung into action and the following recommendations were made and chairmen appointed to look after them:

The committee recommends the following classification:

1. Physical housing, rural and urban. This is to include type, age, deterioration, location of Negro homes, special stress upon inherited areas and the process by which deteriorated areas become associated with Negro population in cities. With George R. Arthur, Chicago, Ill., as chairman.

2. Social and economical factors in Negro housing, including extent of home ownership, value of homes, income and relation to rental, housing and relation to health, education, industrial efficiency and delinquency. Homemaking and care of property of Negroes. With T. Arnold Hill, New York, as chairman.

3. The problem of financing home ownership. With Robert R. Moton, of Tuskegee, Ala., as chairman.

4. Negro housing and the community. Questions of property depreciation, restrictive covenants and legal ordinances, municipal improvements, sanitation, phases of zoning, standards and regulations, influenced by public opinion. With Charles S. Johnson, of Nashville, Tenn., as chairman.

5. Correlation committee to study the relation of problems of Negro housing to the general housing problem and programs. This committee is aware of the difficulty of collecting, correlating and reporting upon the essential material falling under each of the subdivisions proposed. We therefore recommend that means be found

whereby these studies can be accomplished. We further recommend that the responsibility for each subdivision be placed in the hands of the committee appointed by the chairman. This comes to the general chairman and chairmen of other committees with Charles S. Johnson assembling and correlating the work necessary to be done.

The committee decided to have sub-committees meet on the following dates:

1. Report of committee members to sub-committee chairman, July 1.
2. Report of sub-committee chairman to general chairman on July 15.
3. Meeting of Correlating Committee, July 28, in Washington, during meeting of N.A.T. and C.S.
4. Report of all committees to Correlating Committee, September 1st.
5. Report of Correlating Committee by October 1.
6. Meeting of general committee after October 1 and before November 1.

## PRESIDENT HOOVER SENDS MESSAGE TO COMMITTEE

Secretary Lamont Delivers Message to Burroughs Housing Committee

That membership on a special committee of President Hoover's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership may lead to service of unusual value of the United States was the wish expressed by President Hoover in a message to the first session of the group which is to make a nation-wide study of housing conditions among Negroes, held at the Commerce Department last Friday and Saturday. The President's message was presented to the committee by Robert P. Lamont, Secretary of Commerce, who is chairman of the conference.

Mr. Lamont himself addressed the committee, explaining the purposes for which the committee was appointed.

The text of the President's message is as follows:

Special Committee  
"Prompted by a fine spirit of public service, you have assembled

here today to consider what program may be devised to improve conditions of housing for our colored citizens. This committee is one of many special committees, each of which is charged with some important phase of the board problem of home building and home ownership.

#### Children in Particular

"Since the health and welfare of all citizens, and particularly of children, are vitally affected by conditions of housing and home life, your committee has unselfishly undertaken to give careful consideration to urgent questions which affect directly the welfare of more than 10,000,000 persons.

"Your studies will lead you into the consideration of all phases of the design, construction, and financing of houses, of conditions of ownership and tenancy, of remodeling, equipping and furnishing of homes in city and country.

#### Thoughtful Consideration

"Thoughtful consideration is needed in order to determine what can be accomplished by the Negroes themselves in the improvement of conditions of housing and home life and of what can be done by public authorities or other agencies to aid them in bringing housing conditions to higher standards of sanitation, convenience and wholesomeness.

#### Next Steps

"Wherever conditions are found to be below a reasonable standard the problem is one of determining what next steps can best be taken in improving the conditions and how information and service can be mobilized to prevent future recurrence of conditions of housing that may impair health or character.

"Many of you will doubtless be asked to help in the work of other committees, but I feel that a judicious consideration of the special problems assigned to this committee may lead to a service of unusual value to your country.

#### Self Help

"Self-help is a primary principal of progress, but self-help involves wise stimulation and thoughtful leadership. It is my hope that you, who are among the acknowledged leaders of your race, may find in the work of this committee an opportunity to carry the study of this subject farther than it has been carried before, and that your recommendations may help to coordinate and direct the forces which will lead to a more rapid solution of the important problems of housing with which you are concerned."

#### Secretary Lamont

The statement of Secretary Lamont to the committee was as follows:

"This is one of approximately thirty committees of the President's Conference on Home Build-

ing and Home Ownership. Each committee is charged with making a study of some segment of the housing problem in order that it may report its findings to the general conference which it is planned to hold in the late fall or early winter.

"The other committees of the conference cover such subjects as types of dwellings, house design and construction, financing, utilities for houses, city planning and zoning, landscaping and planting, remodeling and modernizing, fundamental equipment for houses, home furnishing, homemaking, kitchenings, rural housing home information centers, housing legislation, technological developments, and so on.

#### Special Aspects

"This committee has been formed to consider the special aspects of the problems of housing, home building and home ownership, as they have been found among the members of the colored race, in the hope that you will be able to discover what those conditions are and in what ways existing civic agencies among Negroes can better cope with those conditions.

#### Spread Information

"Examination of the best contemporary measures now in use and of the reasons for their success will be most useful. Devices for the spread of information on methods of home improvement among colored citizens should be examined as well as the enumeration of such problems as can best be handled through general public measures affecting all citizens.

"Your problems parallel those of other committees in the work of which some of you or other leaders in Negro civic activities will be asked to assist.

#### Responsible Task

"I feel that you consider yourselves to be charged with a highly responsible task. Without a committee such as yours there is the obvious possibility that some significant phases of the problem of Negro housing might fail to receive the attention they deserve.

#### Typical Problems

"You have unselfishly accepted membership on a committee, which through channels of Negro universities and civic organizations is in a position to reach the sources of information and to understand by what types of organization and appeal typical problems are best met. We are all very much interested in the duties confronting you and appreciate the time and effort you will give to the work.

#### President Interested

"I believe that you will find this service a means for correlating and analyzing existing information, supplemented perhaps by special studies on phases of the subject at present insufficiently studied. Well considered and use-

ful recommendations should result, and you have my best wishes for the successful conclusion of your task in which the President is keenly interested."

The special committee is to make a nation-wide study of housing conditions among Negroes, both rural and urban. Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, president of the National Training School for Women and Girls, is chairman of the committee.

#### The Committee

In addition to the chairman other members of the committee are: George R. Arthur, Chicago; Joseph Clark, Baton Rouge, La.; Mrs. Irene M. Gaines, Chicago; Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon, Philadelphia; Lorenzo J. Greene, Washington, D.C.; W. J. Hale, Nashville, Tenn.; Gordon B. Hancock, Richmond, Va.; Leon R. Harris, Moline, Ill.; Miss Fannie C. Williams, New Orleans, La.; T. Arnold Hill, New York; R. H. Hogan, Lexington, Ky.; Benjamin F. Hubert, Savannah, Ga.; Zack Hubert, Langston, Okla.; Charles S. Johnson, Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, Pittsburgh; Robert R. Moton, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., and Mrs. F. C. Williams, Little Rock, Ark.

#### Mr. HOOVER ON HOUSING.

One day last week, according to the Washington news bureau of the New York Herald Tribune, President Hoover directed a message to the Committee on Negro Housing, composed of seventeen prominent American Negroes, encouraging them to seek higher living standards for the race. He later received most of the members of the committee in the business office of the White House, the message having previously been read to them by the Secretary of Commerce, Robert P. Lamont. Mr. Hoover commended the purpose of the committee as being prompted by a fine spirit of public service, but his message was singularly devoid of any evidence of insight or sympathy with the peculiar conditions that hamper the effort to improve the conditions of housing, especially from an economic point of view.

For instance, the message stressed the consideration of problems of design, construction and financing of houses, of conditions of ownership and tenancy, of remodeling, equipping and furnishing of homes in city and country. He emphasized the need of thoughtful consideration in order to determine what can be ac-

complished by Negroes themselves in improving conditions of home life, and of logical manner and on a permanent basis. But mere platitudes, however encouraging, skirting the edges of the problem without considering its underlying causes, will not change the existing situation. If President Hoover would insist upon the necessity of a fair deal for Negro labor in the matter of employment and economic advancement, both on the part of employers and fellow workmen, there would be greater encouragement for raising the standard of Negro housing. So long as Negro labor is discriminated against by both these forces in American industry its advancement is hindered and its economic growth stunted.

The responsibility for the restriction of economic advancement for the Negro is due to the attitude maintained by employers and the labor unions. Debarred from membership in the latter on equal terms with white workmen, the black worker is the last to be hired and the first to be fired in time of stress. This makes him an easy mark for the grasping employer, who seeks to hire help at starvation wages and would rather have the black worker as a club to beat down the demands of the white union labor. Until the black worker has attained equal economic standing with the white worker, he cannot attain a higher standard of housing and living. It would be to the interest of the white worker to bring this about, as it would deprive the employer of their most dangerous weapon, a reservoir of unorganized cheap labor.

The self help that Mr. Hoover insisted upon as "a primary principle of progress," may come in the shape of wise stimulation and thoughtful leadership, but it also involves the development of an intelligent following and systematic organization. The coordination and direction of the forces of the race in such a way as to promote its economic advancement would help meet the urgent need for better

#### TO ATTEND HOOVER WHITE HOUSE CONFAB

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Dec. 3—

President J. R. E. Lee of the Florida A. & M. College has accepted the invitation of President Hoover and been granted leave of absence by his board of control, to be in attendance at the White House conference on home building and home ownership December 25. This is the third invitation that President Hoover has received to be in attendance at national conferences called by President Hoover in the last two years.

# White Woman Donates \$10,000 for Program of National Urban League

*Amsterdam News*  
2-18-31  
**Eugene Kinckle Jones Reports on 1930 Task of Securing Jobs—\$92,224.55 Paid All Expenses for Year**

A donation of \$10,000 has been made to the National Urban League by Mrs. G. B. Seligman, white, as a memorial to her late husband, George W. Seligman, it was announced last Wednesday at the annual meeting of the league at 1133 Broadway.

Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the league, reported at the highlights in the organization's accomplishments:

The inauguration of new movements with employed secretaries in Warren, Ohio; Seattle, Wash., and South Norwalk, Conn.; work for the unemployed through the national office, including efforts to secure more jobs for Negroes in public works in the several states; activities in local communities through which Negro representation was secured on unemployment committees, and the securing of relief and part-time jobs; participation in the White House Conference for Child Health and Protection; the appointment of Negro delegates by President Hoover; the holding of a national vocational opportunity campaign in which fifty cities co-operated; a social survey of the Negroes of Elizabeth, N. J.; a study of the Negro in law observance for the President's Law Enforcement and Observance Commission; the publication of a study of Negro membership in American labor unions; the appointment of six students on fellowships in leading social work schools, and the publication for the eighth year of Opportunity Magazine. The treasurer reported the sum of \$92,224.55 received during the year, sufficient to pay all expenses and meet all the organization's obligations.

## Directors Elected.

Mrs. Alice G. B. Seligman was elected a member of the board for the term expiring 1934, and Dr. W. G. Alexander of Orange was elected for the term expiring 1933, to fill the unexpired term of Dr. George Cleveland Hall, deceased. The following persons were re-elected to membership on the ex-

member of the board for the term expiring 1934, and Dr. W. G. Alexander of Orange, N.J., was elected for the term expiring 1933, to fill the unexpired term of Dr. George Cleveland Hall, deceased.

The following persons were re-elected to membership on the executive board for a term of three years: Mrs. Mary McL. Bethune, A. S. Frissell, Lloyd Garrison, Dr. John Hope, Mrs. Henry G. Leach, Mrs. B. B. Munford, Mrs. Albert S. Reed, Miss Elizabeth Walton, Dr. E. P. Roberts, Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Miss Dorothy Straus, L. Hollingsworth Wood and Henry Bruere. The officers of the league re-elected for the ensuing year are: L. Hollingsworth Wood, chairman; Dr. Robert R. Moton, vice-chairman; Mrs. Henry G. Leach, vice-chairman; William H. Baldwin, secretary; Lloyd Garrison, treasurer, and W. Charles Poletti, assistant treasurer.

## A SIGNIFICANT GIFT.

The announcement that Mrs. G. B. Seligman of New York had contributed the sum of ten thousand dollars to the National Urban League carries more than ordinary significance, as an endorsement of the purposes of this organization. The gift was made to establish a special fund in memory of the husband of the donor, the late George W. Seligman, a former member of the League board. The income of this fund is to be devoted to any special or general purpose approved by the executive board of the league.

The purposes of the National Urban League are succinctly defined in the slogan adopted by its founders, in which it made its plea, "Not Alms, but Opportunity." Its efforts to better the economic and social condition of the Negro have been based along these lines, of securing the opening up of opportunities for industrial progress. Notable successes have been achieved in this field through the local organizations, which are scattered in many of the larger cities of the country. Considerable work has also been done by the local leagues to alleviate the distress caused by the unemployment crisis, which has hit the Negro harder than any other group of the community.

In view of the fact that the Negro is the first to feel the result of business depression and the last to recover from the effects of it, it is gratifying to find the efforts of an agency like the National Urban League stimulated and encouraged by material aid of the nature of this gift from

Mrs. Seligman. Her late husband's connection with the organization as a member of its board undoubtedly imbued her with faith in its aims, and her approval in them manifested in this manner is a worthy tribute to his memory. The gift should serve to strengthen and extend the capacity of the League to grapple with the problem of unemployment, as well as to further its program for vocational training. The gift should prove a stimulant to renewed exertions by the League as an agency for racial progress.

**LEADER**  
**MILWAUKEE, WIS**

APR 2 - 1931

## TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF THE URBAN LEAGUE

The National Urban League, with headquarters in New York and branches in many cities, including Milwaukee, has come of age. It has been working for the betterment of conditions among Negroes for 21 years.

In its latest report, for the year 1930, just out, it gives an account of its activities in many cities. It is a record of detailed recreational work, character building activities, vocational and educational guidance, securing jobs for the jobless, relief for the unemployed, welfare work among women and children, health promotion, improvement of housing, cultural agencies, etc. Negroes, like whites, are victims of the depression, suffering from the inadequacy of the existing social system, but it is safe to say that they would be much worse off without the help of the league.

# \$10,000 GIFT FOR URBAN LEAGUE

*Amsterdam News*  
2-21-31  
**W. G. Alexander Named to Board; Budget \$92,224.**

**NEW YORK**—At the annual meeting of the National Urban League, held here February 11, Mrs. G. B. Seligman, of this city, contributed the sum of \$10,000—a special fund, in memory of her husband, the late George W. Seligman, former board member, the income from which is to be devoted to any special or general purpose approved by the executive board.

Secretary Eugene Kinckle Jones reported the inauguration of new movements with employed secretaries in Warren, Ohio; Seattle, Washington and South Norwalk, Conn.

The treasurer reported the sum of \$92,224.55, received during the year, sufficient to pay all expenses and meet all the organization's obligations. Reports of work in the forty-two branch organizations are summarized in the annual report.

Mrs. Alice G. B. Seligman was elected a

APR 5 - 1931  
WORK OF THE URBAN  
LEAGUE

An organization which is doing notable work in improving the relations between the white and black races, and particularly the conditions under which Negroes live and work in the cities of America, is the National Urban League, which has branches in many communities. An evidence of the high appraisal of its work is shown by the fact that a distinguished list of eminent contributors, men and women, are among its supporters. The Spelman Fund, the Altman Foundation, the New York Foundation, Edward S. Harkness, John D. Rockefeller Jr., Mrs. Samuel Sachs, Mr. and Mrs. Felix M. Warburg, Mrs. Jacob Schiff, Robert W. DeForest, Colonel William J. Schieffelin and Mr. Thomas W. Lamont are among its supporters.

Among the branches which have been organized "for social service among Negroes," are Brooklyn, Baltimore, Boston, Akron, Ohio; Albany, Atlanta, Ga.; Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Columbus, Ohio; Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Hartford, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Louisville, Minneapolis, Newark, N. J., Philadelphia, and St. Louis. In fact it is stated that "the influence of the League ramifies through the country in practically all the industrial centers from coast to coast, with many smaller communities receiving counsel from League representatives in handling the acute economic and social problems growing out of the presence of an increasing Negro population."

In its annual report, just issued the National Urban League prints brief notices giving results of its work in a number of cities. The scope of its activities may be gathered from its work in this borough.

"The Brooklyn Urban League, Lincoln Settlement, Incorporated, No. 105 Fleet place, Brooklyn, N. Y., Robert J. Elzy, executive secretary, reports the following accomplishments: More than two hundred children sent to the country for a two weeks' vacation; holding of clinics at the headquarters by the Brooklyn Tuberculosis Association for the purpose of examining children to discover incipient cases of tuberculosis. In the fall, the Brooklyn Urban League took over as a part of its regular activities the Snyder Avenue Boys' Club and Community Center, which, for the past two years has been under the directorship of the Executive Secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League. This added three full-time workers to the Brooklyn Urban League's staff," it is stated.

"Work of the Visiting Teacher in the public schools and activities of the family case and Children's Court worker have been continued and this, with the finding of homes in the community and temporary placement, has rounded out a complete social work program for the neighborhood in which the League's headquarters are located.

"The Industrial Department has been active during the early part of the year, in its regular placement work and in opening up new opportunities for Negro workers. Since the second week in November, it has acted as one of the representatives of the Emergency Work Bureau in placing persons in employment during three days of each week. In this particular effort, it was directly responsible for the reconditioning of a number of churches, community and club-houses, the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. Apart from an independent of its activities with the Emergency Work Bureau, it was responsible for 339 persons finding employment. Two persons, recently appointed to the State civil ser-

vice, report this department as being, in part, the cause of their successful quest for positions."

# COMMUNISM MAKING HEADWAY AMONG NEGROES, CONFERENCE TOLD

## Urban League Reports 33,000 Illegitimate Offspring

*Journal & Guide*  
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Communism is gaining adherents among Negroes who look upon it as something which might give them an opportunity to compete for work on an equal basis with others, T. Arnold Hill, New York City, told the delegates at the annual conference of the National Urban League, Saturday.

Mr. Hill, who is director of the department of industrial relations of the League, said the current unemployment situation was the chief contributing factor in the increasingly successful effort of Communism to gain a foothold among colored Americans.

"While interracial groups are working to promote understanding of the intelligent few," he declared, "the masses of white and black workers are on opposite sides of a battle line which stretches from New York down the Atlantic seaboard to New Orleans and across the country to Seattle and Los Angeles.

**Cause of Resentment**  
"Heretofore, whites have been content to allow uninviting tasks to be done by Negroes, but today any job is acceptable to whites. Frequently, the removal of Negro workers is immediately followed by the introduction of white workers. This, naturally, is resented by Negroes, with the result that bitterness is cropping up where accord once existed and interracial groups have another point of irritation and another instance of injustice to challenge their interest and sincerity.

"As a result of heavy losses sustained during the present unemployment crisis, the Negro is resorting to Communism, whether we like the thought of it or not—whether we think it advisable to suppress the fact of it or not—the Negro is relying upon Communism or something else different that might give him, even though in a distant future, an opportunity to compete for work on an equal basis with others.

"Our efforts in the field have been as a rope of sand; they have been opportunistic, individualistic, and uncharted. We might well consider a 'ten-year plan for race relations' that would meet this situation," Mr. Hill suggested.

**Large Attendance**  
In spite of the distance of St. Paul and Minneapolis, where the sessions of

the conference were held, from most of the Urban League branches, a large delegation of League secretaries attended a report to be made on nominations for membership on the proposed new board of directors to serve until a meeting of the bank's new stockholders can be held.

By that time, also, it is hoped that all unsigned depositors will have entered the agreement, thus removing the last obstacle in the way of reopening. With this in view a special committee of workers has been called together to make a thorough canvass of all unsigned depositors. It is anticipated by members of the committee that they will meet with a gratifying response.

DEC 17 1931

# State Inquiry into Negro Life in New Jersey

## Promotion of Well-being and Interracial Relationships Objective of Survey into Social and Economic Conditions

By EMIL FRANKEL

Director of Research, Department of Institutions and Agencies, State of New Jersey

WHILE the interracial survey of the New Jersey conference of social work had for its primary purpose the securing of facts regarding Negro life in New Jersey, it was considered fundamental at the outset that it must also aim to bring together white and Negro citizens of the various communities that they may know one another and become aware of the conditions facing the Negro population.

It was felt that because these conditions are the problems of both whites and Negroes they must be dealt with by these groups working together. By having such inter-racial groups assist in making the survey we were assured of a deeper and more extensive knowledge of the local situation and enabled to more intelligently plan a constructive interracial program.

The purpose of this survey, stated briefly, was:

To ascertain the social and economic status of the Negro population of New Jersey through an analysis of that group's advantages and disadvantages in the fields of education, employment, housing, health, law observance, recreation, and citizenship.

To make available these facts for the several communities in New Jersey and for the State of New Jersey, that they may be used as a basis for a constructive program in promoting the social well-being of the Negro and in improving interracial relationships.

In general the facts to be obtained covered the following phases of Negro life: Population. The history of the Negro in the State; the present population; the relative increase during the last few decades; the probable changes in the next decade; the distribution of the Negro population; sources of the Negro migration to the State.

Industry and Agriculture. The historical development of Negro labor; the present status of the Negro in industry and agriculture; the place of the Negro as a laborer, skilled workman, public employee, and farmer; the wages and hours of the Negro worker; the efficiency, regularity, and turnover among Negro employees; the protection of-

such as gambling and prostitution, and the informal facilities of the home and the street.

Dependency. Extent of child, family and old-age dependency; available agencies and facilities; and the underlying causes of dependency. Special studies of the problem of unmarried mothers and children born out of wedlock.

Delinquency. The volume of Negro crime as measured by arrests and commitments; the type of offences committed; the Negro in penal and correctional institutions; the Negro in relation to the courts and to the police; the problems of juvenile delinquency and of probation and parole.

Citizenship. Extent of political activities among Negroes; civil rights laws in the State and their enforcement; special legislation involving the Negro; and office-holding, active and appointive, among Negroes.

Community Organizations. The church: Number, membership, denominational, distribution, and social programs. Other religious, cultural, and fraternal organizations. The extent of Negro employment in professional work in the ministry, social work, education, club, fraternal and labor activities, the general extent of their leadership among the Negro population.

The Negro Family. A special contribution to the technique of interracial surveys and one through which intimate pictures of family life among Negroes were obtained from the study of what might be called the average Negro family.

Through personal interviews by agents of the interracial committee information was obtained from several thousand Negro families, showing for each family size, place of nativity of its members, length of time lived in New Jersey, former places of residence in State, the educational status, total family income, leisure interests, church membership, lodge and club affiliations, and the number of lodgers in the household, and the family's general problems of adjustment.

This survey of the Negro families was carried a step further by securing for comparative purposes information on the living conditions of 100 white families in the Third and Seventh wards of Newark, inhabited largely by Negroes, in order to determine any difference that may be found to exist between the two racial groups living in similar areas.

In order to carry on effectively the interracial survey work in the various New Jersey communities, local survey committees were organized, using existing interracial committees as the nucleus for the community survey committee. To have assurance that these committees will serve the best interests of the community it was the aim to draw together representatives of the lay population; municipal and county government agencies dealing with health, education and recreation; public and private social work organizations, particularly those having extensive contact with the Negro population; employers of labor, representatives of organized labor and of the Negro professional group, the leaders in the community, both Negro and white.

A somewhat different survey technique had to be applied to southern New Jersey communities, where Negroes are more largely native born, than those found in the northern section of the State, where the social problems faced are more rural than urban and the racial problems are more regularly patterned.

The Negro survey in Monmouth County was organized with the county as a unit, working through the Monmouth County Organization for Social Service. The survey carried on along county lines through the generous cooperation of the South Jersey Social Workers' Club.

The work of the local survey committee was outlined as follows:

1. To serve as a contact group with the various individuals and organizations whose cooperation was to be secured.
2. To aid in securing volunteer workers to carry on the survey.
3. To advise as to particular local situations which need special study.
4. To assist in the preparation of both the preliminary and the final community reports.
5. To arrange for community meetings to receive the final report and exhibits.

In the study of the local community it was considered to be of special importance to find out what programs have been attempted for the solution of problems among Negroes; which have succeeded, and which have failed; what was felt to be the reason for their success or failure.

TRENTON, N. J.

*Times*

SEP 26 1931

# Migrant Welfare Commissioners Begin to Average \$50 Weekly

NEWARK, N. J.

CALL

Expenses for which the State is being billed by the Migrant Welfare Commission, which was created to study employment conditions among the Negroes and is composed of members of that race, have reached a point where several of the members are collecting an average of \$50 a week.

Dr. William S. Byrd, of Jersey City, the chairman, received \$58.21 for the period from September 12 to 17, according to records of the State Comptroller's Department. He appears to have found it necessary to come to Trenton from Jersey City on four successive days and also to make a trip to Atlantic City. In addition to railroad fare, the voucher lists meals, taxicabs and sundry items as other disbursements.

Another member in the \$50 a week class is Thomas Hope, of Camden, the secretary. His expenses from September 15 to 20 were \$50.54. He, too, came to Trenton on four successive days. Like the others, he appears to be an inveterate rider in taxicabs, his expenses for that mode of travel ranging from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a day. His appetite also is good, meals costing him from \$3 to \$4.50 daily, according to the voucher.

Mrs. Bessie Mention, Princeton member of the commission, is slightly more modest in her charges, the total for the period of September 1 to 11 being \$49.13. There was one day, however, when she reported \$7 for automobile hire. The same account listed meals from \$3 to \$5 a day.

The members are now sporting the gold badges which they requested the State Purchasing Department to order, each of the ornaments costing \$4.75. The stationery bearing their names has not yet arrived, but is expected any day.

Governor Larson has not made known what action he will take on the letter of J. Bernard Johnson, Newark attorney, asking that the commission be disbanded as a political organization and a discredit to the colored race.

## Negro Section Shows Great Improvements

Solution of Difficulties Is  
Helped by Definite  
Developments.

## Vice Elements Fade

By A. W. HARDY.  
Executive Secretary of Colored Branch  
of Y. M. C. A.

A little more than a year ago Newark was agog over conditions that existed in the Fourth Precinct of the Third Ward. What are the conditions today? To the sympathetic observer it is apparent that this much despised area is developing self respect. Poverty is still present and many persons are in need, but one does not feel that the wants of these people are tied into criminal desires. There seems to be a release from tension and folk have lost their suspicious attitude toward persons coming into the district.

Certain definite developments are taking place in the district that are helping in the solution of its many difficulties. Chief among these are: more adequate housing as proposed in the Prudential model apartment project; sustained and consistent effort of the police department to eliminate those chronic sources of crime; and more adequate provision for leisure time activities.

Nothing has contributed to a change in conditions more than the Prudential housing plan. Location of the site of

the model apartment in the heart of this district already has begun to have its effect.

### Vice Elements Leave.

The fact that the Prudential Insurance Company has the authority to proceed with its building project has been of sufficient importance to vice elements in this section that they are seeking other fields for exploitation. They realize that this district, allied with a strong force, is in a position to bring decisive action. In an earlier article appearing in this paper the writer emphasized the fact that vice is a highly organized business, and when it ceases to be profitable it will disappear of its own accord. This reaction has begun and, while much vice still exists, it is apparent to an observer that there is improvement for the better.

Equally as important as the Prudential housing plan has been the very effective and consistent campaign of the police. Many of the old offenders who were a constant source of difficulty have either been sentenced to prison or have accepted invitations to try their talents in other fields. Crime has become furtive in the Third ward, lacking the boldness of previous years. One almost has to have a password to get into some of the places of entertainment, where before carefully posted lookouts would show one if he appeared a stranger.

### Constructive Efforts By "Y."

Better provision has been made for character building and leisure time activities of the people of this section. The Young Men's Christian Association has housed its program and activities for colored men and boys in the Bethany Community on Court street. This is a significant constructive effort in this area. This building will furnish a more adequate place for community expression of its colored population than ever existed in this city. A large building, housing a gym equipped with shower baths and a number of smaller rooms for club work, will meet a great need. In addition, the Department of Recreation has opened model social centers at Morton Street and Eighteenth Avenue schools, which provide a full program of leisure time activities. These building programs are augmented by numerous playgrounds strategically located to best serve this area.

Montgomery Street School was changed to a Binet school with the beginning of the current school year. This will provide an opportunity to isolate that group of students who, either from lack of background, over age, poor ability or any other cause, need special attention that cannot be given in the public schools. The fact that approximately fifty per cent. of the juvenile delinquents come from the public schools of the city and thirty-five per cent. of the juvenile delinquents are from the Fourth precinct marks this change as important. In 1930 only fifty-four delinquents from all the Binet schools were under supervision of the Probation Department as against 449 from the public grade schools.

### Another Wise Change.

Another constructive change has

been the appointment of a colored probation officer. While the probation department has been very efficient in handling the problems of the Negro delinquent, that efficiency will be greatly increased by the work of this officer, who will be able to interpret racial backgrounds and attitudes effectively.

Conditions in this area have not become ideal, but the changes indicated here are having their effect. The tension that existed for some time after the murder of Sergeant Anderson has disappeared and there is more freedom and ease of attitudes in the whole section. The prostitutes are still there, you can still buy liquor or dope; the number racket is still promoted, but all on a much smaller scale and in such a manner that it augurs well for the constructive forces at work in this section.

## NEW JERSEY SURVEY SHOWS 54 P.C. FROM DIXIE

10 Per Cent Have  
Lodgers, 28 Per Cent  
are Jobless.

TRENTON, N. J. — An unnamed New Jersey town fictitiously labelled "Middletown," one poverty-stricken section of which is occupied by colored people, was described in dramatic fashion here Friday afternoon at the session of the Interracial Committee of the New Jersey Conference of Social Work, at the Hotel Hildebrecht. Ira D. A. Reid, acting director of the survey of colored life in New Jersey, which has been conducted by the conference throughout the State in recent months, read the account in a preliminary report.

The description of colored life in this town is typical of such life in most other towns and cities in the State, the survey indicates.

Striking points brought out in Mr. Reid's report were as follows:

1. That recent migration to the State from other states reached its peak here during the years 1922-23.
2. That illiteracy among colored people had made a striking drop from 1880 to 1930.
3. That unemployment among colored people in the State in 1930 was four times that of whites; twice that of foreign whites.
4. That the percentage of colored people in State penal institutions and boys' homes had decreased considerably in the period from 1906 to 1930.

5. That heart disease was gradually taking precedence over tuberculosis as a death cause of both white and colored.

Answering the question of why a study of racial conditions and their causes was demanded, Mr. Reid pointed out a number of inconsistencies in Jersey's racial life which gave the answer.

Colored families to the number of 2,135 were studied by the investigation, in which nineteen of the 21 counties were covered and 61 communities analyzed.

### Valentine Presides

Prof. W. R. Valentine, president of Bordentown Institute, as general head of the survey presided at the meeting, which was attended by several hundred social workers and visitors.

### E. K. Jones Speaks

Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the Urban League, pointed out that a study of the children of both races disproves the theory of racial superiority of whites. He said there was no evidence in the world of any superiority due to race.

Dr. Emil Frankel, white, director of the New Jersey Department of Agencies and Institutions, spoke on the purposes of the survey.

### 54 Per Cent from the South

Mr. Reid's report went on to deal with statistics of the colored people in the State. He said that 54 out of every 100 families studied had come from the South; 5 out of the same 100, from Pennsylvania and New York, and 3 out of the 100 from foreign points. Forty-two per cent of the group had been residents of the State for less than ten years. The median age for males in the State was 24 years; for females, 25 years.

### 28 Per Cent Jobless

One hundred families in the third and seventh wards of Newark studied by the survey, indicated that 28 out of 100 had earned an average of \$20.86 a week.

### 10 Per Cent Have Lodgers

A study of 200 colored and 1,000 white families in this Newark area indicate that 10 per cent of the colored had lodgers compared with 4 per cent of the white; 22 per cent of the colored gave a home to relatives compared with 10 per cent of the white; 63 per cent of the colored lived alone compared with 84 per cent of the white; the average colored wage was \$19.72 a week, the white, \$23.61; 43 per cent of the colored earned nothing the week previous compared with 42 per cent of the white; 3 per cent of the colored owned homes compared with 28 per cent of the white; the average colored length of residence was 10 years; the white, 23 years.

### Colored Section Worst

The areas of colored residence were generally in the worst sections of communities, the report said. These sections were observed to have been among the first sections of the

community to have been settled.

#### "Middletown"

"Middletown" had no industries of any consequence which employed colored people. Domestic work was their chief occupation. Colored people held the balance of political power there, but "got nothing for it." It had four teachers, no doctors or dentists, and two churches.

#### One Street Lamp

Mr. Reid further described one particular street in this town as an example. This street had but one street lamp. Eleven houses, mostly owned by one man, were located there. The houses were dilapidated and had only outside toilets. At the end of the street was a large tenement house which generally housed 120 men in the summer when agricultural work drew an increased population. The houses often had no water and the rooms of the tenement house were nearly devoid of furniture.

#### Gambling Center

Two years ago this town was without such extremes. Since then colored migration from South Carolina, North Carolina and Alabama had set in and created a problem. This street became popular as a gambling center, its popularity extending throughout the State. In the summer so popular did it become, that the landlord began to rent lots to visitors, all rooms being overcrowded. Fights were staged nightly.

#### Visitors Armed

Last September a woman was slain in one of the houses by another woman. Previously this section of the town had no policeman. The killing caused the city to assign an officer there. The officer is in constant danger.

A raid on the tenement was conducted last September and a movement discussed to arrest all colored persons on the streets for a period. This was not done, however. Visitors to this section of the town were warned by officials to protect themselves by securing gun permits.

In another city in South Jersey shacks were found being rented to colored families which had come there expecting employment and found none. These shacks were rented at \$1.50 a week.

#### 18 in a Room

In some of the shore points, 18 were found living in one room in certain sections.

Replies of various employers of colored labor in the state on their opinions of such labor revealed an array of answers whose general tenor was that colored people were all right for heavy, rough outside work, but unsatisfactory for work demanding judgment and skill.

One employer stated that light colored girls were better operators than dark ones. Many refused to give colored better jobs. Fifteen per cent said that colored labor turnover was higher than white, while 62 per cent of the employers said it was the same.

#### Unions Refuse Colored

Twelve unions in the State do not admit colored.

Under agriculture, a decrease in farmers since 1900 was noted. In the

field of health, it was noted that few hospitals exist where a colored patient may pay for a private room. Three colored doctors in the State have a staff hospital connection. There is no hospital where nurses may train or doctors interne.

#### Social Work

Rampant prejudice exists in the attitude of service agencies. The average social worker will not properly analyze colored situations. The community is not generally aware of the aid it can receive from such agencies. In South Jersey one street is nicknamed "State Street" because of the fact that so many of its children are cared for by the State.

#### Churches Have no Social Program

Churches were charged with generally carrying on no social program. Churches in the State were valued at \$1,700,000, half of which represented mortgages.

#### Numbers

The highest number of arrests were made in Camden. One cause of many arrests in various parts of the State was the numbers evil.

#### Separate Schools

The school system investigation indicated that controversies were existent in East Orange, Montclair, and Englewood over the establishment of separate schools there; that South Jersey favored the separate school idea, while North Jersey generally opposed it; that 35,000 colored children are enrolled in the State that segregation in the lower grade schools was compulsory in those cities which had them, except Trenton.

William J. Ellis, commissioner of institutions, stated that the finished report would be available to institutions and organizations of the State. He recommended having trained and qualified case workers in the larger cities and increasing interracial work. He recommended the establishment of a children's home in South Jersey and the co-operation of groups for home binding—groups such as the Federation of Women's Clubs.

#### No Jim Crow Hospital Wanted

He asserted that colored physicians should be given opportunities in the hospitals as well as nurses. More trained teachers were needed, he said. He stated that a colored tuberculosis hospital, if established, would defeat its own purpose.

The enlargement of Bordentown Institute was recommended. Better homes and philanthropic housing in some sections were recommended. He stated that \$10,000 was being sought to continue the work of the survey

CINCINNATI, O.  
TIMES-STAR

NOV 30 1931

# POVERTY, BUT LITTLE CRIME, IN HARLEM'S NEGRO BELT

Communism Said To Be Gain-  
ing Hard-Time Converts  
Among New York's Colored  
Population.

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

(Copyright, 1931, by Cincinnati Times-Star.)

NEW YORK, November 30—(CPA)

—As President Hoover's Committee on

Home Building reports degradation

and overcrowding in Negro housing,

an estimate made here today by the

Urban League lists about 75,000 un-

employed Negroes in this, the black

capital of the world. This is about

23 per cent of the New York colored

population of 326,706.

The first blast of winter, sweeping

New York last Friday, with snow and

a falling thermometer, found many

thousands of Negroes homeless and

destitute. While in the city relief

program there is no segregation, Wel-

fare Commissioner Taylor ruled that

the precinct apportionment of relief

could be organized and managed by

members of the race. This was in

response to urgent pleas, insisting

that an effective relief administration

could be carried on only by persons

"racially sympathetic." Previous dis-

tribution of funds had been under

white authority.

## URBAN RADICALISM

Reports in Chicago and New York

that communism was gaining rapidly

among urban Negroes were checked

by this writer today. Inquiries at the

Urban League and the New York

headquarters of the Communist party

brought, in each case, the emphatic

reply that the movement was pro-

gressing swiftly in the dilapidated

tenements which Hoover's commission

condemns. No figures as to the num-

ber of Communist locals or member-

ship could be obtained. An official

of the Urban League said:

"The Communists are unquestion-

ably working hard among the Negroes

and the number of party members

in Harlem is steadily increasing.

Clergymen and business men are com-

batting the trend, but thousands of

the younger Negroes, particularly

having broken away from home and

church ties, and now hungry and

desperate, are heeding the Commu-

nist proselyters. We get the same

reports from Chicago, where the Com-

munist party is working diligently to

make converts. The urban Negro of

the North, segregated from the com-

munity life and badly equipped to

compete in the economic struggle,

makes fertile soil for Communist

ideas. Radical leaders are springing

up among them. Unemployment and

misery are deepening their discontent."

It was said that building trade em-

ployes and railroad porters and wait-

ers make up the largest groups among

the unemployed. Many of the "sand

bags" are Negroes, and there is hunger

and destitution among these "air

compressor" workers. Their occupa-

tion, with many afflicted with the

"bends," the occupational curse of the

sand hogs, tends to unfit them for

other work.

While in the prosperity years Har-

lem night clubs, cafes, theaters and

music halls were booming, most of

them are now closed or deserted and

many Negro singers, dancers and ac-

tors are out of work. It has been

incorrectly assumed that the lure of

Harlem had drawn mostly persons of

light-footed proclivities from the

South. Social workers and economists

deny this. They find that the en-

tertainers made up a small propor-

tion of the Harlem population and

that most of the urgent cases of dis-

ress are among workers of other call-

ings. There are a few of the gaudy

"wham-bam" places still going. But

the whites aren't light-clubbing in

Harlem the way they used to, and

the section is dark in more senses

than one.

## IN UNHEATED FLATS

This inquirer found destitute Ne-

groes huddling in unheated flats, but

hanging onto their radios when pretty

nearly everything else was gone.

"Somehow they manage to meet

the instalments even if they haven't

food in the house," said a collector

for a radio firm. "Once in a while

we have to take back a radio set and

it causes more grief than if we had

taken all the furniture. If they can

manage a shuffle or a tune once in a

while, they can forget everything else

for a time. Last Sunday I went into

one of those dreary railroad flats, to

collect an instalment, where there

was a Negro couple with six pickan-

ninies. They were all huddled around

their fine, big shiny radio, spellbound

with happiness, listening to a sym-

phony concert—pickanninies and all.

They hadn't a crumb of food in the

house. They counted out the instal-

ment, most of it in pennies. It was

all the money they had. One of the

pickanninies, a boy of about 10, was

accompanying the concert on a violin

—a musical genius, I am sure."

The Urban League is working val-

iantly and is receiving considerable

assistance from other organizations

So far, the largest concentrated Negro

population of America has come

through the last two trying years

without disorder and with a better

crime record than many of the white

sections of the city.

# Rockefeller Denies Part in House Plan

John E. Nail Silent on the  
Story of Westchester  
County Program

A story in The Amsterdam News last week, telling of a model housing community planned in Westchester county and stating that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., was backing the move, was denied Thursday by the financier's personal representative.

Through Roscoe Conkling Bruce, resident manager of the Dunbar Apartments, Charles O. Heydt, president of the Dunbar Corporation, stated:

"With reference to the newspaper item in the New York Amsterdam News on Wednesday, May 20, to the effect that Mr. Rockefeller or the Rockefeller Foundation is backing a plan to establish a community for colored people in upper Westchester county, there is not the slightest basis for any such statement. I do not know who gave out the information, but so far as Mr. Rockefeller and the Rockefeller Foundation are concerned, it is entirely wrong."

John E. Nail, Harlem realtor, who was reported to be interested in the project, and whose firm, Nail and Parker, was said to have made the survey resulting in the housing plan, declined to make any statement on the matter. His secretary said he would neither affirm nor deny the published story.

# Rockefeller Backs Model Apartments

John E. Nail Interested in  
Westchester Plan for  
200 Families

Several prominent white persons, including Lieut.-Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Joseph Proskauer, former Supreme Court justice, are behind the move to establish a model Negro community in upper Westchester county, where families may purchase homes in a model 200-family apartment

house.

The project, still in tentative stages, is being fostered by the Rockefeller Foundation, several philanthropic organizations and prominent individuals. A site has been selected in an isolated, but easily accessible part of the county. Until plans are completed for the purchase of the site, its location will not be disclosed.

In addition to building the proposed apartment house on the site which will exceed thirty acres, it is the intent of the sponsors of the project to build several small dwelling houses.

The co-operative apartment house will be the center unit around which the smaller dwellings will be built. The site is undeveloped and before it can be made suitable for building purposes several improvements, such as sewerage and water mains, will be built.

Plans for the apartment house, which are being drafted by a prominent white Russian architect, embody what is known as the international style of architecture, noted for comfort, conveniences and exceptionally low cost. The center is planned to provide suitable homes for people.

Westchester county was finally decided on as the logical site for the proposed center, after a survey by the real estate firm of Nail and Parker, 145 West 135th street. According to the realty concern, the survey revealed that more than 90 per cent of high-class families, anxious for accommodations in the suburbs, showed a strong preference for Westchester county.

It is said that John E. Nail, head of the realty concern and reputed one of the wealthiest of his race in the country, is personally interested in the project, and expects to play a prominent part in financing the building of the center. The white sponsors, it has been learned, will only finance the launching of the project, which will eventually be financed on a co-operative basis by those living in the center.

## NEW YORK TIMES

OCT 4 1931  
ASKS AID FOR NEGRO ILL.

Urban League Seeks \$14,400 to Expand Convalescent Care.

To provide increased convalescent care for New York Negroes, the New York Urban League, in a brochure issued yesterday, announced its immediate need of \$14,400 for the de-

velopment and remodeling of its twenty-one-acre site for a convalescent home at Verplanck, N. Y. The statement declared that although the Negro population of the city had increased from 152,467 in 1920 to 327,706 in 1930, there has been no general increase in convalescent facilities.

In fourteen leading New York hospitals 12,797 Negroes were cared for in 1930. Of this total 453 were referred for convalescence and only 227 received this care.

## BROOKLYN TIMES

OCT 8 1931  
SERVICE KEYNOTE  
OF URBAN LEAGUE

Social-Minded Citizens Carry  
on Work at Boys' Club and  
Settlement House.

To aid the needy members of the 68,000 colored people in this borough, a group of social-minded white and colored citizens banded together and have for many years been functioning under the name of the Brooklyn Urban League-Lincoln Settlement Association.

With a settlement house at 105 Fleet pl. and the former Flatbush Boys' Club, now the Snyder Avenue Boys' Club, at 2523 Snyder ave., these people have since 1909 been carrying on varied social services through a day nursery, kindergarten, employment bureaus, Children's Court aid, family case, work and clubs for boys and girls. The present organization is the result of a merger between two formerly independent groups, the Brooklyn Urban League and the Lincoln Settlement Association, both of which had previously been engaged in social service work among the colored population of Brooklyn.

The settlement society was founded in 1909 when the largest colored sections of the borough were the Borough Hall and Navy Yard districts. Efforts were concentrated in these areas and upon the association's incorporation in 1914 the Fleet pl. building was bought to serve as a centre for their activities.

### Organized in 1916

In 1916, the Brooklyn Urban League was created by Miss Mary

white Ovington, also for the purpose of aiding the colored of the borough. When Miss Ovington, to devote herself to other social work, gave up the leadership of the Urban League in 1920, the similarity between the aims of the two groups persuaded the leaders to join forces. Until 1927 they worked co-operatively and at that time they were officially merged.

The institution's greatest worry at present is finding employment for the idle. Last winter, working with the Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee, the placement department kept 125 heads of families at work, besides finding permanent jobs for 153 others. This year they expect to co-operate with the unemployment committee again, but while the number of applications for aid have been increasing, indications point to a decrease in the number of positions to be available.

The day nursery last year cared for over 6,000 babies of working mothers and for older children a kindergarten is maintained under the supervision of the Board of Education. During the summer, more than 250 children were sent to camp for two weeks.

### Solves Court Problems

A social worker is constantly in attendance in Children's Court to help unravel the problems of the colored children brought there, and by this means, nearly 225 delinquent boys and girls were aided last year. Through the three case workers employed by the organization, about 1,000 families were helped to adjust themselves when faced with various problems, necessitating over 3,000 visits.

The Fleet pl. building is the headquarters for the work among women and girls. Here are the nursery and kindergarten, as well as girls' clubs of recreational, educational and vocational natures.

The Snyder Ave. Boys' Club is a recent acquisition, having been taken over from the Flatbush Boys Club last January. A community centre is conducted for adults of the neighborhood and three full time paid workers supervise the boys' activities in the gymnasium, swimming pool, clubs and vocational classes.

The primary purposes for which both the Brooklyn Urban League and the Lincoln Settlement Association were founded were health education, improving housing conditions, employment aid and civic betterment. Prior and up to 1914, when Brooklyn had a colored population of less than 35,000, carrying out those aims was comparatively simple.

### Migration to North

From that time on, however, a steady migration of the colored people from the South to the cities of the North has taken place. In the consequent increase of the colored population here and the needs called forth by the arising condition, the Brooklyn Urban League had its inception.

Now, with 68,000 colored folks in the borough, and the economic depression affecting all such institutions, the capacities of the Brooklyn Urban League-Lincoln Settlement

Association are taxed to the limit. The budget for the current year is \$30,000, which it is hoped will be raised through the society's only source of income, the voluntary contributions of its members. These range from \$1 to \$5 a year.

The present officers of the group are William H. Baldwin, president; the Rev. Henry H. Proctor, pastor of the Nazarene Congregational Church, and Mrs. Gilbert H. Thirkield, vice presidents; Mrs. Edwin F. Horne, secretary; Lewis W. Francis, treasurer; Frank H. Gilbert, assistant treasurer, and Robert J. Elzy, executive secretary.

On the board of directors are some of the borough's most prominent citizens, including the Rev. S. Parkes Cadman, pastor of the Central Congregational Church; Supreme Court Justice Charles J. Dodd, Dr. Henry Neumann, ethical culture proponent; the Rev. John H. Lathrop, pastor of the Unitarian Church of the Saviour; William R. Granger, Mrs. Thomas L. Leeming and Roland Rasch.

## NEW YORK SUN

SEP 1 1931  
NEGROES MOVE  
TO EAST SIDE

New Settlement Started  
There Three Years Ago.

3,500 IN COLONY AT PRESENT

Sister Eldora Dukes Credited With  
Starting Movement.

Sister Eldora Dukes in her big cape, a desperate real estate agent, the fulfillment of dreams of New World opportunity and restricted immigration—these are responsible for the fact that there's now a little Harlem in lower East Side. Some 3,500 Negroes are living there, where three years ago there was not a one. Their coming is but part of a change in the character of the population, once almost exclusively, now only predominantly, Russian Jewish.

Last winter the Henry Street Settlement was the site of one of the Prosser committee employment bureaus. Mrs. R. G. Southworth was in charge, and she says that only

about 50 per cent. of the applications for aid were from Russian Jews. About 12 per cent. were from Negroes and about 12 per cent. from Italians. Some Chinese applied for help. Miss Lillian D. Wald set up the Henry Street Settlement to serve a neighborhood which was almost without exception tenanted by Russian Jews.

#### Immigration Drop Causes Change.

The broad reason for the change is the combination of dreams fulfilled in restricted immigration. As Jews resident in the district win a little wealth they move, often to the Bronx or Brooklyn. Up to a few years ago their places were quickly filled by their fellows, immigrating from Europe. But then the bars were put up. There were few of the same race and creed permitted to enter to fill the emptied flats.

Therefore the invasion by others—really a second invasion, for once far back in its history the section was peopled by Irish and German families.

The fact that the Negroes came to help change the character of the population was directly due to the desperate real estate agent and the enterprise of Sister Eldora.

The real estate agent saw more and more of the flats he had listed standing empty. He tried to get tenants and failed. He advertised the rooms for Negroes, but they did not rent them. Then he went to Sister Eldora Dukes—that is what she called herself. She was by way of being a religious leader in Harlem, and she was a most acute business woman. The agent suggested that she induce Negro families to move to the East Side, and said he was willing to pay a commission on each tenant obtained. Sister Eldora's followers began to move.

#### Negro Quarter Established.

That was three years ago. The first migration from Harlem increased, and as soon as the center of a Negro quarter had been set up, accretions came both from the northern part of the city and from the Southern States. Negroes moving North knew of friends and relatives living in the lower East Side, and went there themselves. Cherry, Madison and Monroe streets are the center of the district. There are four established Negro churches and other indications of a permanent colony.

The Negroes present problems to, among others, the Henry Street Settlement and Edward J. Ahearn, the Tammany leader of the Fourth district, who must do Democratic proselyting among the usually Republican settlers.

The settlement, not having had a color problem before, finds new difficulties arise in its work with the Negroes. In bad times, too, the Negroes are likely to have the worst of it, and so they are having now. A great deal of unemployment is reported in the colony.

## LIVING CONDITIONS IN HARLEM

By S. VAN VEEN

There are in Harlem tens of thousands of workers and their families living next door to starvation in filthy dark flats that were built fifty years ago and have never been remodeled or changed. *New York*

Most of these apartments are "railroad" flats. A room in front faces the street and the kitchen faces the back. These two rooms have windows, although very often the kitchen is quite dark owing to other buildings jutting out and shutting out a lot of light. The two or three cubbyholes in between have windows opening into dark damp shafts. These inner rooms are quite dark and practically useless as a place to live. And yet thousands of workers and their families are forced to live in these creepy holes. Not only that, but families are doubled up here, two and three families occupying the flat. They make common use of the kitchen and bathroom and sleep in every available bit of space.

The majority of Harlem workers are Negroes. Many thousands white and Negro are out of work. They are forced to double up in order to be able to have any shelter at all, for a single family could never manage to pay for the whole flat alone. In some places out of two families, consisting of nine or ten persons, including the children, only one worker has a job and all the rest live on his earnings. Thousands of families are facing eviction. These miserable holes rent for thirty to thirty eight dollars.

Added to the high rents, many of the houses are in a broken down and unsanitary condition, with broken walls, leaking pipes and plumbing out of order. It is remarkable that the workers' families living here are able to keep even a semblance of cleanliness and order. But somehow everywhere things are scrubbed and orderly giving the lie to the scoundrels who say the jobless are thriftless and lazy. In one household a supper of boiled dandelion greens, bread and soup made out of a few cents worth of soup greens was on the table. They were out of work but they invited us to eat. The workers know how to share what little they have.

All summer in the insufferable heat tens of thousands of white and Negro children swarmed the streets thin and hungry, but playing as long as they had any

strength. There is not a bit of shade anywhere. Mt. Morris park is there but only families living near by spend their time there and the children in upper Harlem cannot walk so far. But the park itself is much too small to afford to shade all the children in Harlem even if they all managed to get there.

Last winter many children starved and froze. On more than one occasion during the winter I came across half frozen little Negro boys riding the subways to sleep and keep warm. They had no home.

The teachers of a Harlem public school told me that last winter there was soup every noon for hungry children over the worst months, but they told me they could not continue. They explained that the money for the soup was collected from the small wages of the teachers, thus teachers were forced to pay for soup that should have been paid for out of city funds.

A well paid official of the city, superintendent of a Harlem clinic informed me that "no one went hungry in Harlem." "The police have taken good care of the unemployed in Harlem. There is nothing to worry about. There are no hungry children." This lady, like all other city officials with a good salary, would betray the workers, Negro or white, any time for a good job.

Even the capitalist news admits that unemployment is increasing and that this winter will see mass starvation. They tell us, however, that the "generosity of private individuals and organized charity will care for all the homeless and hungry unemployed and their children."

But that is the same old charity racket and the workers are beginning to learn that only an organized fight for unemployment insurance will force the greedy bosses to come across.

The Harlem workers will have to build tenants leagues against evictions and for a reduction in rent and electricity and the unemployed workers must intensify the fight for unemployment insurance and free milk, lunches and clothing for all school children.

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights organizes Negro and white workers to fight against the rotten conditions.

## WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

REPORTER

OCT 22 1931

## IMPROVED NEGRO HOUSING IS PLEDGED BY PRICE

house where there is an average of five persons per room will soon night become an epidemic striking the entire section.

Improvement of Negro housing conditions here was pledged today if he is elected by Fraser P. Price, Democratic candidate for the Common Council.

Mr. Price's statement follows:

"The City of White Plains has acquired, and rightfully so, a nationwide reputation for civic progress. But in one respect we are as backward as any rural community in the country—that of improving the housing conditions of our Negro population.

"Our city has a rapidly increasing number of Negro families who are, by unavoidable necessity, jammed into a small and badly congested area in the heart of the city. Perhaps one reason why we don't complain more about the obviously disgraceful condition of that section is because we see it so often that we are accustomed to it and no longer see it in its true light.

"Certainly there were many people in this city who were shocked when a local newspaper conducted an investigation and exposed those conditions a year ago.

"The investigation revealed that White Plains has approximately 400 Negro families, of which 90 per cent are crowded into an extremely small geographical area packed with dark, dirty, ramshackle fire-traps unfit for human habitation. The investigation also revealed that 80 per cent of these houses lack sufficient light, ventilation, proper plumbing facilities, inadequate heating equipment and fire protection. In some cases they are in such a poor state of repair that they are unsafe.

"These conditions were brought to the attention of our city officials in written communications citing specific instances. An 'investigation' was promised and, according to the officials, conducted but the conditions still exist. They are worse, if anything, now that unemployment has caused acute suffering and privation among the poorer classes of our people.

"Yet White Plains is asleep at the switch. It requires a sudden and horrible catastrophe to awaken the administration to the need of improving conditions. And there is no disputing the fact that we are daily facing that catastrophe. A fire starting in the crowded quarter and remaining long undiscovered to gain headway will sweep the Negro quarter with the loss of many lives, in spite of our very efficient fire department. Or a highly contagious disease starting in a

JAN 17 1931  
TO HELP NEGROES.

Unemployment touches everybody, but it affects the Negroes more seriously than any other racial group. Performance largely confined to irregular work, they are the first to be laid off; and official figures confirm the expectation that they would suffer peculiarly in this period of depression. This fact gives importance to the work of the National Urban League, which has for 20 years attacked the problems of Negro health, employment, housing and citizenship.

"The work of the National Urban League," President Hoover wrote some time ago, "is fundamental to the progress of the race." Working through inter-racial co-operation, the Urban League lacks the dramatic appeal of more crusading organizations. It is important that the organization should not be compelled, in this year of need, to reduce its program and lessen its activities. Particularly New York city, which has become the capital city of the Negro race, should do its full share toward meeting the budget of the organization. Those who wish to help the league may learn more from its treasurer, Lloyd Garrison, 1133 Broadway, New York city.—New York Herald-Tribune.

J. D. ROCKEFELLER,  
DUNBAR APT. BUILDER  
TO GET GOLD MEDAL  
Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—(CNS)—The first gold medal which the Hundred Year Club is to award, will go to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., who has contributed much toward the civic development of New York City. The award will be made in the spring. Mr. Rockefeller financed and supervised the building of the \$3,000,000 Dunbar cooperative apartments for the colored people of Harlem. Roscoe Bruce, former assistant superintendent of schools, Washington, D. C., is the resident manager.

# MAYOR WALKER PRAISES WORK OF MEN ON POLICE FORCE FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE TO NEEDY

*Age 3-14-31*  
*new york*  
**422,190 Cartons of Food Distributed to Needy Families in Past 14 Weeks; City Employees Aid**

2,371,384 persons have been given help through Mayor Walker's Committee on Unemployment, and this has entailed an expenditure of \$685,518.02. The total amount raised to March 6, out of which these expenditures were made, was \$948,969.33, showing a balance of \$263,451.31.

Commitments already made by the committee for the rest of March and up to April 30, amount to \$620,400, but the anticipated receipts, including the balance on hand, total only \$593,451 and so the committee is facing an apparent deficit, on April 30, of \$26,949.

In a report made public by Mayor Walker, it was shown that in the fourteen weeks in which food has been distributed (to March 6), 422,190 cartons, containing 19,530,033 pounds of substantial foodstuffs had been distributed by the police to needy families, and that clothing and shoes had been supplied to 51,427 persons.

The report was prepared by William Jerome Daly, executive secretary, and it showed that the committee and Chief Marshal Charles Jacobs had saved 18,800 out of 20,000 families threatened with being dispossessed from actual eviction.

Mayor Walker, in a radio talk over WEA and WJZ, paid high tribute to members of the police who have freely given up their time to loading and unloading trucks with thousands of food, and then packing it to the hundreds who thronged police yards of each week.

He declared that "The policeman comes not only with the club and subpoena. We have learned in these days that he comes not as a dictator or a tyrant, but as an angel."

It was pointed out by the Mayor that of the \$948,968.33 received by the committee, the city employees' contributions amounted to \$624,553.48. Private contributions totalled \$93,155.15, the balance being receipts from sports and theatrical benefits and interest on bank balance. It is estimated that contributions from civil employees for March and April will amount to \$300,000 additional, making the total from this source nearly a million dollars.

Speaking of the Committee's previously announced intention to discontinue its relief program after April 30, Mayor Walker expressed doubt as to the probability of doing so. "While we have a dollar left, all of us will want to continue to help the needy," the Mayor said, but added, "if such relief is no longer necessary, no further appeal will be made." He urged that department heads speed their share of the \$700,000,000 in public works already ordered by the city as an unemployment relief measure.

The service told of by the Mayor does not include relief work done by teachers in the public schools who have made donations from their

salaries to relieve needy pupils and their families. This fund is separately administered, and Frederick D. Chamberlain, treasurer of the School Relief Fund, reported on March 6 evening that \$198,891 had been raised thus far, of which \$140,206 had been expended.

In addition to this, \$60,000 worth of food and 120,000 free lunches had been dispensed in the various schools.

Referring to the contributions received from civil employees, and to the splendid volunteer service rendered by the police, Mayor Walker said these efforts "told a story of true devotion and civic pride which should make every citizen proud of every city employee. It makes one reflect of statements from the pens of those who don't know our civic employees—the false impression created."

**Jobless Committee To Broadcast Plea**  
*metron news*  
**Subscriptions Brought Up to \$14,739.18 — More Offer Assistance**  
*3-11-31*

The Harlem Co-operating Committee on Relief and Unemployment will go on the air again today at 4:45 p. m. in its weekly broadcast over station WOV. The forty-five-minute program will include a talk by Vere E. Johns on the activities of the committee.

Contributions received yesterday brought the total subscriptions in the campaign to \$14,739.18. The food station opened last week at 210 West 125th street is still supplying several hundred families in Harlem daily.

Dr. David Kaplan, optician at 531 Lenox avenue, will begin the distribution this week of 250 pairs of eyeglasses to needy persons who present letters from their ministers, the necessary examinations to be made when the letters are presented.

The unemployment situation and economic depression were viewed as results of too much wealth and excessive poverty by Mrs. Mary Hanford Ford and Mrs. Doris McKay, prominent white lecturers of the Bahai Movement, at a conference held Saturday afternoon at the New York Urban League under the auspices of the industrial department of the league and the contact committee of the Bahai Movement.

Samuel A. Allen, industrial secretary of the league, presided and

urged co-operation of liberal groups in an effort to improve present-day economic ills.

Edwin A. Smalls, owner of Smalls' Paradise, Seventh avenue and 135th street, has donated his cabaret for a benefit to aid the jobless on Sunday evening. The entertainment has been arranged under the direction of James Sampson, secretary to Mr. Smalls.

Artists who have promised to be on hand to give their services are Jules Bledsoe, Ethel Waters, Clarence Tisdale, Texas Guinan, Noble Sissle, the Berry brothers, Eubie Blake, Broadway Jones, Minto Cato, Andy Raazaf, Thomas "Fats" Waller, Flournoy Miller, Dan Healy, Wells, Mordecai and Taylor, Ada Ward, James Barton, the Three Midnight Steppers, the Ambassadors of Rhythm, and acts from the Cotton Club, Connie's Inn, and radio station WMCA.

Marion Hardy's Alabamans, with Sonny Nichols directing, will play for the show. The artists will begin appearing at 10 p. m. in order to be able to return to their shows and clubs.

Alderman Fred R. Moore, chairman of the entertainment committee, has arranged a program of music and dancing with Bill "Bojangles" Robinson as master of ceremonies. A charity ball will be held at the 369th Regiment Armory, 143d street near Lenox avenue, on Friday evening, April 24. A card party with 250 tables is to take place soon at the Savoy Ballroom.

**FRATERNAL LODGE HELPS HOUSING.**

*Age*  
The completion of building No. Two of the building project started by Monarch Lodge of the Independent Order of Elks marks another step forward in the ambitious program outline by this progressive organization. The fact that all the apartments in the first building erected were speedily rented to responsible tenants showed the scheme to be both feasible and practical. With the completion of the second unit, the revenue from tenants should be doubled and the success of the enterprise as a paying investment greatly enhanced.

*New York*  
The membership of the Elks have frequently been criticized, on account of what has been termed its sporting proclivities, but the manner in which this building enterprise has been conducted shows that a legitimate business venture can also count upon liberal support. While a building loan was raised to cover the cost of construction, the lodge also undertook to finance the enterprise by an is-

sue of bonds, secured by mortgages upon the buildings. These bonds have been disposed of in great measure among the members of the order, but the sale of them has also been extended to the public in general.

The furnishing of additional housing for the residents of Harlem provided by the erection of these apartments, in itself constitutes a public service and the community in general is bound to benefit by it. It is perfectly proper that the members of the community who have a little capital to invest should take some of these bonds, which should prove a sound investment. Interest will be paid on the bonds from the income received as rents, while a certain proportion of the receipts will be set aside as an amortization fund to provide for the payment of the principal when the bonds fall due.

Monarch Lodge has shown what a fraternal order can do in helping to relieve the housing situation and at the same time make a profitable investment for its members and those who think along the same lines.

## J. D. Rockefeller, Jr., Pledges \$15,000 For Unemployed Negroes

In appreciation of the efforts made by Harlem residents in securing pledges and cash of over \$15,000 to aid the unemployed colored citizens of New York during the past three months, John D. Rockefeller Jr. has made a pledge of \$15,000 as his contribution toward this work.

With this contribution the total of the cash and pledges received will be over \$30,000. This money is being disbursed through the Harlem Cooperating Committee on Relief and Unemployment of which the Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop is chairman. Alderman Fred R. Moore is treasurer of the drive committee, which is seeking to raise \$100,000 for this work.

### \$400 Paid Out in Week

During the week of March 16, the Committee paid out a total of over \$400 to aid the families of the unemployed. The disbursements were as follows:

Paid on room rents and

apartments .....	\$262.45
Paid for moving evicted families .....	72.00
Paid gas and electric bills for 14 families, amounting to .....	20.93
Paid for groceries .....	42.79

\$432.62

In addition, coal for 40 families was donated by corporations in the neighborhood and 1500 loaves of bread and other groceries were also donated and given out through this committee.

## Negro Manufacturer Offers Aid to Unemployed Through The N. Y. Age

### NEGRO HOUSING.

Realizing the extent of the suffering of the unemployed in New York City, Benjamin Alexander of 200 West 133rd street, New York City, manufacturer of incense, cosmetics, and a public spirited citizen, has brought to The New York Age office, five thousand packages of incense put up in specially made ten-cent packages, to be distributed to worthy people who are out of work, which they may sell and keep all the money they collect.

"This will give a large number of people an opportunity to earn something that will help out in these times of stress," said Mr. Alexander. "Even if an individual earns no more than the price of a good dinner, or enough to buy shoes, or some article of clothing for his or her child or children, it will be a help. Knowing that in a crisis like this, our group is the hardest hit, we feel it our duty to take care of the situation."

The New York Age is authorized to select the people who wish to sell the incense at ten cents a package, and which will be given them absolutely free. "Each package," according to Mr. Alexander, "contains a generous amount of high grade incense, which hundreds of people will be glad to get at this new low price."

The public may rest assured that there are no strings tied to this offer, and that when they buy a package of the goods all the money will go to the person selling it.

If you are needy or unemployed, call at the office of The New York Age, 230 West 135th street, and get your supply of incense absolutely free.

Urban housing conditions among Negroes, as described in a report to people concerned, and even in cases where the increase could be paid, it needs a good deal of education to establish the idea that the additional cost is worth while. But in the case of the Negroes the transition between price levels would seem to be much easier. They already pay, as we see, with the white population of the nearly \$10 a room. It thus seems a practicable proposition to provide the Negro population of Harlem with really modern housing at very little higher rent than they now pay for noisome and overcrowded rookeries.

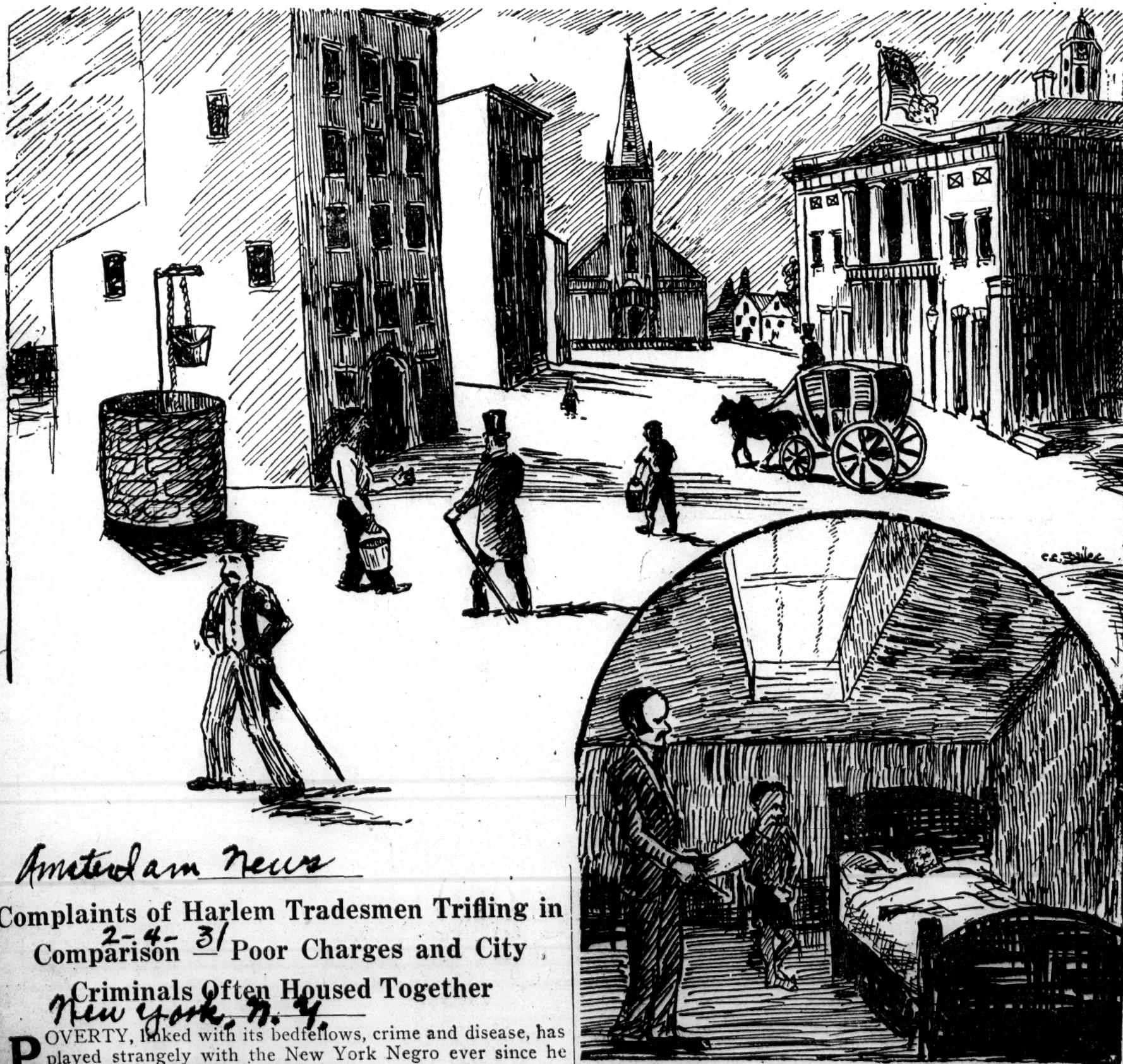
The drift of the colored people from the field to the cities has been far more rapid than among the whites. New York City, in the decade after 1920, more than doubled its Negro population, the increase being from 152,000 to 327,000. Although the area open to Negro occupation has inevitably expanded under such unprecedented pressure, the available space has not grown at anything like the rate that would have marked a similar increase among the general population. As the report points out, Negroes are almost universally excluded from new residential sections, an outlet which in the case of every large city has drained off population from the congested districts and so raised the city-wide standard. Where old neighborhoods have given way to Negro migration they have done so slowly and reluctantly. Negro expansion has been into rundown neighborhoods. And for such substandard housing the colored people pay nearly 50 per cent higher rentals than obtain for white low-cost housing.

Yet in that very circumstance a

distinct promise of improvement is discoverable. In New York City, for instance, the report finds that the average monthly rental for white people of the lower income groups is \$6.67 a room. For Negroes it is \$9.58 a room. Now every discussion of large-scale model housing for the urban working people is ultimately brought to a standstill against the economic factor. Under the best of circumstances modern sanitary apartments cannot be created for less than \$10 to \$12 a room. Between this price and the minus \$7 a room which will secure accommodations in the old tenements the spread is too large in most cases. An increase of 50 per cent in rent is

Social Conditions, Improvement etc. - 1931

# Ye Olde New York's 'Free' Negroes Made to Feel Like Slaves at Times



THE ARTIST gives his impression of panhandling of an earlier day, when inmates of the almshouse near City Hall in 1791 begged from citizens as they came to and from the common well. The picture directly above shows the Alms Commission's investigator determining the exact amount of assistance the city should extend to a freedman abed with tuberculosis.

Those who wail loudly about their lot in the present clouded cycle, when 60,000 take their meals daily in the breadlines, and when the roster grows alarmingly at the Municipal Lodging House, might well learn that these troubled times are not without parallel.

The close connections of the ills, poverty, crime and disease, were recognized by old Father Knickerbocker, for as we turn back the pages of history we find that in the waning Eighteenth Century, as now, the poor who became public charges were herded into institutions near the houses of corrections, and often were placed under the same roof with criminals.

In 1775 the Bridewell Prison, a three-story Colonial structure not unlike the new Museum of the City of New York in appearance, came into being on the old City Common just north of what is now City Hall Park. This building was planned to replace the old and crowded gaols, and had been erected just west of the old Debtors' Prison, near lower Broadway.

## Business for Whites.

After the famous "Negro plots" of 1741, the Negroes of New York were restricted in many ways. There was no civil equality extended them as now. The Harlem Negro business men who complain because of the keen competition they receive today from outside whites have no problem such as was faced by their predecessors. No Negro then was allowed to sell anything under pain of a fine of five pounds (about \$25), and if more than three of them met anywhere as if for making plans of any sort whatever, they were taken to the whipping post on the common and soundly lashed in public.

By the time the Bridewell was established the hysteria that followed the 1741 disturbance had subsided, and care to prevent the expression of protests by Negroes in any as their grievances was a concern for the whole city. And so it was intended that they should be included on the "guest lists" of the new public institution, if necessary, just as they have their proportionate number of ladles of stew at the Municipal Lodging House today.

## Misery of All Colors.

The struggles of the American Revolution had left poverty in their wake, and even those Negroes in the city who had been sufficiently resourceful or fortunate to gain their freedom from slavery were not always able to maintain economic stability. This was not, of course, true of Negroes only, for the records of the city's charity homes list whites as well as blacks, and in no small numbers.

The minutes of the City Council (now the Board of Aldermen) for May 14, 1784, record that the city

*Amsterdam News*

Complaints of Harlem Tradesmen Trifling in  
Comparison <sup>2-4-31</sup> Poor Charges and City

Criminals Often Housed Together

*New York, N. Y.*

POVERTY, linked with its bedfellows, crime and disease, has played strangely with the New York Negro ever since he

made his unhappy debut in old Amsterdam. The current depression, which has inflicted its sting upon Gotham's darker citizens in particular, calls to mind an earlier day when mulattoes and blacks had to throw themselves upon the not so tender mercies of their paler fellows.

fathers moved to care for the people left destitute as a result of the revolution, famine and disease by placing the Bridewell under a board of commissioners. At the same time the councilmen made plans to erect an almshouse next to the prison, to be operated by the same board, so the municipality could care for its poor, both adults and children, and provide for teaching each a trade.

The old minute book of these two institutions (the almshouse having been opened in 1791) tells of events throwing light on the status of New York Negroes in those infant days of the American republic. No mention is made of the number of Negroes domiciled in the almshouse, but Negroes' cases handled by the board were designated as "black" or "mulatto." Thus we know how the dark populace fared in Gotham when James Duane was mayor, Grand street was far uptown, and Harlem out in the country.

#### To Operate or Not to.

The Bible had told our ancestors to pluck off their right hands when they offended them, but amputations, necessary as they were in unusual cases, had to receive the official sanction of the commissioners before they could be performed in the old almshouse. So back in March, 1792, when a Portuguese vessel, the Snow, landed a black boy, Ramon, with his feet frozen off, a special meeting of the board was called to consider the request of the house physician to rid the boy of his legs.

The commissioners met, we are told, "were consulted with by the surgeons present, and the principle of humanity dictating the propriety of giving relief if possible to all under their care, of whatever country or complexion they may be, readily consented that the necessary amputations should be performed; and a committee . . . were appointed and requested to call on Mr. Silva, the agent of the aforesaid vessel, to know who . . . was to be responsible for the cost of subsisting the said boy in the almshouse."

The next month the committee reported that Silva had "utterly refused to become responsible for the support of the black boy." By the end of May Ramon had recovered from the operation and was ready to be discharged, so a bill was made out to Silva charging one shilling (about twenty-five cents) for Ramon's subsistence, five pounds for his nursing, and two dollars for a pair of wooden legs. We are not told what became of Ramon.

#### Times Were Tough Then.

The following winter economic conditions were so bad that the house became overcrowded, since it had to care for 500 people (a stupendous figure when the fledgling city, minus the borough of Brooklyn, is compared with the present teeming metropolis) and even that number increased daily. Two rooms in the Bridewell had to be turned into an auxiliary workhouse.

The inmates, who had been going over to Chatham street (now Park row) to draw water from a well, were reported begging on the streets.

The city authorities became alarmed (just as the social service agencies did a few days ago when panhandlers increased at a fast pace), and the well in the yard of the almshouse was repaired, and the privilege of journeying outside for water was curtailed. Incidents in both the almshouse and the Bridewell like these fill the minute book, written in longhand by Samuel Dodge, who was keeper of the house and scrivener to the commissioners.

It is recorded that a free black man named John Scott wrote the board in November, 1793, saying that he was then in "deep consumption" and his family in distress and in need of relief. The board immediately appointed two of its members to visit the family and at their discretion pay to them whatever amount was "absolutely called for."

A month later a mulatto infant, called "Joe" was left on the hands of Mrs. Margaret Van Husen, a white woman, by his mother who had absanction of the commissioners before they could be performed in the old almshouse. So back in March, 1792, when a Portuguese vessel, the Snow, landed a black boy, Ramon, with his feet frozen off, a special meeting of the board was called to consider the request of the house physician to rid the boy of his legs.

#### Ye Olde Soupe Kitchen.

On the same day, on account of the large number of vagrants who were continually applying for food, it was decided that the keeper of the house should "cause a mess of soup to be made" one day each week, the soup to be made of beef heads and vegetables, three heads for each mess, which would feed about 100 vagrants. Here, perhaps, was New York's first soup kitchen and forerunner of the institution today with facilities for 15,000 meals daily.

Boys of poor families were either placed "on tryal" with families that would care for and train them in exchange for their labor, or they would be bound out directly, the board in each case, however, keeping a watchful eye on both the children and the men to whom they were bound. In the case of Negro boys, they could be bound only if they could prove their freedom of slavery, still practiced in New York.

Many blacks and mulattoes were sent forth by both the almshouse and the Bridewell for such labor. We read that on Feb. 17, 1794, the board "consented that Ephraim Williams, a free born black boy, may be bound apprentice to Cornelius Cooper of this city, Brushmaker."

Again, in May, it was decided that the indenture of Jack Harry, another free born black boy, who in November, 1791, had been bound to Garret Harsen, might be cancelled, and the boy bound apprentice to Frederick Stymets, a baker.

#### Keeping the Wolf Away.

These and other trades Negro boys

learned by apprenticeship and extricated themselves from the throes of poverty. In June of the same year Benjamin Ross, a tallow chandler, to whom in August, 1791, a black boy named Robert Yorkshire had been bound, came forward with him and reported that since he was going out of business he wished to transfer Robert to one Burdet Striker, in the same line, and Mr. Striker, who was present at the meeting, agreed that Robert should receive from him an equal or better opportunity than had been his lot with Ross. Robert, absent from these deliberations over his future, was expected to agree, but his own opinion meant nothing in the final disposition of his services.

In September, 1794, the surgeon of the house once more got a chance to wield his knife. Jack Ludlow, a thirteen-year-old black boy, had for a long while been suffering from "a sore disease in his ankle and leg." Since the bone appeared to be "materially affected," the board gave him permission to amputate the limb if a council of surgeons would agree to it. Within a week the surgeons had agreed and the leg was amputated. Sisters and brothers had been torn away from each other by the requirements of the slave trade. Here, too, where orphanage or poverty stood in the way of their happiness, they had to be separated. During the fall of this eventful 1794 Peter Betts, a free mulatto boy, was bound out to Elias Burger, Jr. (two magistrates, as in each of the previous cases, agreed).

and Nancy Betts, presumably his sister, was released to Justus Deerman and Jane, his wife. During 1794 there had been 622 "paupers" on the books of the house, 259 of whom were children. It is safe to estimate that at least a fourth of them were Negro children, even after taking into account the fact that slaves had better protection from poverty than free men, and most of the Negroes were slaves, for free Negroes continued to suffer from lack of opportunity.

#### 21,324 Slaves in 1790.

A census made in 1790, which was not any too reliable, recorded the white population of New York at 314,142. The slave population was fixed at 21,324. The figures for free Negroes are uncertain. Nobody cared much about listing them.

Many manuscripts of this period lie dormant, waiting to be unearthed so that the complete story of the sufferings of Negroes in their struggle for economic stability in old Gotham can be told, and the full stages of development of the black New Yorker recorded.

# ABYSSINIAN WORKERS FIND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BEING NEGLECTED

Continued 2-21-31  
By VINCENT OTTLEY

NEW YORK, Feb. 19—Parents, race leaders and social workers, in their desire to help the unemployed and diminish suffering among Harlem's needy, have entirely laid aside the future of their Negro youth.

The late Theodore Roosevelt constantly admonished that the youth of today are the men and women of tomorrow. Hence, any situation that smacks of servitude should especially be repugnant to the black group.

Negroes are apparently laboring under the peculiar psychology that the white man is a God Parent and as such should provide for them. This sort of psychology degenerates the black man and his offspring. The blame then, is against the Negro Parent Group of Harlem who in the heyday of good times failed to make places for the onrush of zealous youth. The Negro Youth, not having a chance to have their aspirations and ambitions satisfied, will lapse into that class of unclassified and there is no movement there can be no progress.

Before the Chelsea Bank closed its doors, Negroes had deposited there close to \$4,000,000.00. If the money there came to a standstill for, where there is no movement there can be no progress.

Added to this amount in the Chelsea Bank the total would reach a fabulous figure. This amount judiciously directed could finance a number of thriving enterprises in which Negro youth could qualify themselves, with a view of obtaining positions in a field that they desire to enter. The Belstrat Laundry of West 140th street is an example in point. They have in this period of depression, on their payroll fifty Negro workers.

The result of this unemployment period is in the reducing of Negroes to domestic and porter work regardless of training.

With one swoop, droves of Negroes are being relegated to the more menial jobs. The tragic part of the whole situation is that the black man's frame of mind is being adjusted and conditioned so that he has now become content with his lot. This is hardly a healthy environment for ambition, creative thought and constructive and well organized careers. When initiative is stifled and self respect of an individual or group is lost, we can only hope for the worst.

## \$170,000 FOR HARLEM

FROM SALVATION ARMY FOOT BALL BENEFIT — \$125,000 OF IT TO GO FOR SALVATION ARMY HEADQUARTERS BUILDING ON 124TH STREET

New York, N. Y., Dec. 29, 1930 (A NP)—Harlemites will share in the receipts of the Army-Navy benefit game to the extent of \$170,000 according to the figures released by the Salvation Army, which organization was named to handle the moneys thus raised.

Of this sum, \$125,000 will be utilized for the purchase of a home in Harlem from which the work of the Salvation Army will be conducted. The building, formerly the property of the Bell Telephone Company, is located in 124th Street and will house the Harlem activities of the relief organization. How this will work out with the present housing proposition in West 135th Street, next door to the old Lincoln Theatre, is unknown, but Harlemites are anxiously awaiting the result of the plans.

## HARLEM LINES UP FOR \$100,000 DRIVE

Citizens Applaud Speakers at Campaign Dinner Who Urge Relief for Jobless.

PRIDE IN PROJECT SHOWN

Canvass of Residents and Stores in Area Will Seek Gifts, Not Pledges, Leaders Explain.

With characteristic enthusiasm the citizens of Harlem took the initiative last night to provide for relief for their own 30,000 jobless.

The campaign to raise \$100,000 within the next three weeks for Negroes out of work and for the thousands of ill-nourished and poorly-clad children of Harlem was opened at a dinner held in the basement of St. Mark's Church, 138th Street and Edgecombe Avenue, at which the Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, chairman of the committee, presided.

No pledges of large sums were made by individuals, nor were there extravagant promises of immediate over-subscription, but the meeting, attended by Negroes from all parts of the city, gave indication of eager-

ness to alleviate suffering. The appeal is for 1 per cent of the weekly wages of those employed and for all that can be given by those in affluent circumstances.

"We don't want pledges," said one speaker. "We want help from all who can give help, and we will be happy to give 50 cents, 25 cents, or anything, from those who will sacrifice what they can."

The campaign is the first of any magnitude to be undertaken by the residents of Harlem, and some pride was exhibited at that fact at last night's meeting. The sympathy evidenced by letters from other organizations, such as the Emergency Employment Committee, created satisfaction, and when speaker after speaker, Negro men and women from the Bronx, Brooklyn, Staten Island and other outlying districts promised their assistance, the chairman had to wait for a long time before the applause died down.

Mr. Bishop, outlining the distress of the unemployed, emphasized that thousands of unemployable, such as children and persons too old to work, were suffering from lack of food, clothing and shelter. There was also about 1,000 dispossessed notices bread line, he said, where more than 2,000 took their turn every day and more than 200 families were without heat and light in mid-January. Emergency Employment Committee Many children were sent to school without any breakfast, he asserted. "When our people realize that with so small an amount as 1 per cent of their income, those who have jobs will surely bring relief to those without work, for a sense of their own strength will make them respond."

The campaign plan, it was explained, called for the enlistment of 700 or 800 workers to canvass the district. In addition to the individuals, every store located in Harlem will be asked to contribute 1 per cent of sales during stated periods over the next few weeks.

All funds received through the campaign will be distributed for relief through the committee, officially known as the Harlem Cooperating Committee on Relief and Unemployment, at 111 West 135th Street. It is incorporated and is functioning as the Emergency Committee for Harlem in cooperation with other welfare agencies operating in the community, including the Harlem Branches of the Charity Organization Society, the Henry Street Settlement, Tuberculosis and Health Association, the Children's Aid Society and the New York Urban League.

# Harlem Begins Drive To Aid 40,000 Jobless

## OLD PEABODY MANSION TO BE USED AS CLEARING HOUSE FOR WAYWARD COLORED CHILDREN

New York, Jan. 21 (CNS)—Harlem is now in the midst of a three week drive to raise \$100,000 for those who are without aid and have had a hard time getting along this winter.

Estimates showed that about 40,000 Negroes were out of their jobs and unable to find others. There are about 1,000 dispossessed notices out, and about 200 families have no gas, electricity, coal or heat. The Emergency Employment Committee has helped some find jobs, and the Urban League has the names of 5,000 heads of families who want work. About 50 per cent of those applying for aid never did so before. The money is to be raised by a personal campaign. The workers will seek out every family in Harlem, even the business house and trader. They will ask for 1 per cent of each man's salary for the three months' period. The campaign, which is headed by Shelton Hale, Bishop, of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, is expected to last two or three weeks. The treasurer is Alderman Fred R. Moore, Henry C. Parker, a real estate man, will head the trades and professions committee and William P. Andrews, an attorney, the general house to house committee. Dr. Peter J. Murray will act as executive chairman, Mrs. Bess Y. Bearden, head of the special gifts committee, and Mrs. Ruth B. Price, chairman of the lists and quotas committee.

The old Peabody mansion on the Boston Post Road will soon be opened as a "Clearing House" for wayward Negro Protestant children was announced, at the annual meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The rehabilitation of the home has been made possible through a gift of Edwin Gould, who several years ago established the Gould Foundation for Children in the Bronx. The house will be ready for use in about a month.

## HARLEM'S RACE LEADERS ARE DIVIDED

## Opposition Develops To Plan To Raise \$100,000 Fund

By RIENZI B. LEMUS  
NEW YORK, N. Y.—Harlem's race leaders are sharply divided. The fight is on and its purpose is to definitely establish who shall be the recognized chief head man of Harlem Negroes "downtown." The line of demarcation is clear cut: on one side is the group accustomed to raise money among Negroes in large amounts, preachers and fraternal organization heads; on the other are those who have carried on, backed by wherewithal budgets donated by philanthropy and "loose-check-book" white friends of the race. The causes of the schism are deeply seated and of long standing. The occasion for the acute situation presently, however, is the determination of the Harlem Cooperating Committee on Relief and Unemployment to raise a supplementary relief fund among Negroes still at work and facing the paymaster every payday. The goal is \$100,000 and the plan calls for a contribution of 1 per cent of his weekly or monthly pay by every person still working regularly (of which there are several thousand).

This Harlem Cooperating Committee is an emergency relief group organized and headed up by Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, curate of St. Philip's Church. A newcomer to the fold is Fred R. Moore, Alderman from Harlem, publisher of the New York Age, who is treasurer. Attorney Wm. T. Andrews, Jr., serves as secretary. The energy of Father Bishop seems to have been communicated to the workers, including several hundred young women, who

are going and will go into every business establishment, barber shop, etc., smiling the 1 per cent contribution gospel.

**Grounds of Complaint**  
The opponents of the Bishop group ground their objections to the 100,000 fund on the fear that once it is discovered that Negroes have learned the gospel of "self-help" white friends will force them to depend more on themselves, less on "downtown" and therefore, the uplift institution budget makers will have to do some hard work among colored folks hereafter, instead of as heretofore—merely write reminder letters to wealthy white donors to their budgets.

At the annual meeting of the New York Urban League on January 21, John E. Nail, of the well established Harlem real estate house of Nail and Parker, who is vice chairman of the local Urban League, spoke. With rather sharp reference to the plans of the Harlem Cooperating Committee he said:

"They will never raise \$100,000 in Harlem. It never has been done since I have been here, and I have been here all of my life. It never will be done."

Mr. Nail also went on record in favor of all relief for Harlem's Negro destitute being handled, financially, from "downtown." His gloomy and authoritative pronouncement on Harlem's capacity for self-help did not deter the Bishop group. To the contrary it has seemed to spur it on with greater energy and determination.

Within twenty-four hours of Mr. Nail's prediction of failure, pledges were made and cash given at a meeting in St. James Presbyterian Church, Dr. Wm. Lloyd Imes, pastor. Dr. Imes gave \$100, and an unnamed preacher laid down \$75 in cash. Among the section chiefs in the Cooperating Committee movement are J. Dalmus Steele, prominent Elk, and Miss Wilhelmina Adams, whose contacts assure a minimum of \$5,000—5 per cent of the goal money.

**Renters Are Evicted**  
The city's miserableness has outgrown the relief plans; not merely in Harlem but throughout the five Boroughs of Greater New York. It is no longer possible—even for Mayor Walker's Committee—to stay evictions for non-payment of rent. And despite a large number of philanthropists and chronic imposters, every day black and white families, absolutely and utterly unable to pay rent, are thrust out on the sidewalks with nowhere to go. Meanwhile, there are thousands of Harlem Negroes still above the misery line, drawing their wages every payday, contributing nothing to their own miseries, whom they would consign to the charity downtown—already swamped. It is these thousands whom the Harlem Cooperating Committee would collect the mite of each from, to pool and get ragged Negro adults,

naked children, into warm homes, to provide food for. At the end of week before last ten Negro corpses were laying in undertakers' shops, unburied, because their survivors had been unable to raise enough funds to provide the scantiest burials. In the same period, to this writer's knowledge, there was a big Negro cabaret party where the aggregate cover charge came to \$11.50 per person.

Commenting on Mr. Nail's speech, one of the Bishop group leaders smiled and said—"Poor 'Jack,' logically, his position is that a man will live forever simply because he has not yet died—when he contends that we cannot raise a \$100,000 for the reason that we never did raise it.

"But," he concluded, "we have never tried to."

During a discussion, in which the Bishop group opponents had full sway, a southern visitor observed that what the Cooperating Committee proposed "is the same as raising your quota for your Community Chest." Told that New York is too big for such a provincial thing as a community chest, the southerner merely shrugged his shoulders. But the Committee goes on with its plans. One barber-shop's employees have each pledged to give 1 per cent of their weekly wages, and at a mass meeting in Mother Zion A. M. E. Church last Sunday Alderman Moore held aloft a \$2 bill, which he said had been thrust into his hand by a woman of the workaday—for the cause, while he was enroute to the meeting.

**LINCOLN CENTER FAILS**  
NEW YORK CITY—Lincoln Recreation Center with a swimming pool and dance hall, located on 135th Street, was sold last week for \$335,000 which was \$135,000 more than the amount of the mortgage on it. It was valued at \$500,000.

## \$2,166.15 Raised In First Week Of \$100,000 Drive for Unemployed

The first week of the campaign to raise \$100,000 by the Harlem Cooperating Committee on Relief and Unemployment, the Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, director, resulted in contributions totaling \$2,166.15. Indications are that the campaign is gaining momentum daily. The Inter-Denominational Preachers' Meeting has indorsed the campaign and pledged its support to help put it over.

The largest single contribution of the week was made by the Rev. George E. Peters, pastor of the Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church, who gave his personal check for \$200, and pledged himself to work among his congregation in interest of the movement.

Contributions and pledges of \$100 were received from the following: The Rev. Hutchins C. Bishop, Miss Victoria Bishop, T. R. Fell, the Moles Club and Mrs. Ida B. Willis. Former Police Commissioner Grover Whalen sent his check to Alderman Fred R. Moore, treasurer, for \$50. Other \$50 contributions were received from the Les Jolies Hunt Club and from Julius C. McClain.

\$25 contributions were received from the following: Fannie Collins, Howard E. Bates, Ager Boozer, Arthur Burgess, Julius C. Gluck, Adele O. Solson, Mabel Doyle Keaton, Harriet A. Jackson, Leon G. Marshall, Annie Nathan Meyer, Mme. Celesti Nesbitt, Charity B. Tucker and Elizabeth Manley.

Grace T. Brown, Rienzi B. Lemus and Mrs. L. J. Morris gave \$22 each; Mrs. Maude E. Smith gave \$20; Georgiana Duncan, Dr. Oma H. Price and M. T. Williams gave \$15 each; Janet R. Easley sent \$12.50; and \$11 each was received from William Den and Alice Morgan.

Contributions of \$10 and smaller amounts were given by a hundred or more other persons.

The campaign is being conducted from the basement of the 135th street Public Library, 105 West 135th street.

# ASKS THAT RED CROSS GUARD AGAINST RACE PREJUDICE IN RELIEF

Letter to Chairman by N. A. A. C. P. Brings Reply That No Cases of Discrimination In Drought Area Have Been Reported.

Pittsburgh, Pa.  
NEW YORK, Feb. 26—Walter White, acting secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, last week made public a letter to Judge John Barton Payne, chairman of the American Red Cross, urging that care be exercised to guard against discrimination against Negro sharecroppers in the administration of relief in the Arkansas drought areas.

The N. A. A. C. P. letter refers to a press dispatch in which the Red Cross is quoted as accepting prevalent living standards as a basis for relief, and continues:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is writing to inquire if the sentence last quoted means what it seems to say—that the National Red Cross accepts social and racial conditions precisely as they exist. It is a well-known fact that in many states of the far south, and especially in Arkansas, a majority of the white people do not believe that Negroes should have the same economic and living standards as those of other races. It is further true of many of these southern states, as is also well known, that peonage and debt slavery do exist, particularly in the rural areas.

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, representing as it does both white and colored membership, takes this means of expressing the hope and conviction that the National Red Cross will be especially alert to prevent any form of discrimination based on race or color in the distribution of relief supplies to the Arkansas sufferers. It expresses also the hope

that the National Red Cross will not be content to accept 'the customs of the community' as a basis of relief given, but will rise above those customs when they are dominated in any degree by race prejudice."

## Mayor J. J. Walker Aids Harlem Charities

Mayor James J. Walker, in accordance with his promise to contribute a certain proportion of his salary to charity, has transmitted to Alderman Fred R. Moore checks totalling \$200 to be given to three Harlem welfare activities.

To the Katy Ferguson Home for Unmarried Mothers at 162 West 130th street he sends a check for \$100. To the St. Benedict's Day Nursery, 27 West 132nd street, he gives \$50, and the Hope Day Nursery, 33 West 133rd street, gets another \$50.

The mayor's confidential secretary, Miss Evelyn H. Wagner, wrote Mr. Moore:

"I am enclosing herewith three letters, together with the Mayor's contributions. Will you please be good enough to see that they reach the organizations for which they are intended?"

Each check was accompanied by a personal letter from the mayor, reading:

"As one who appreciates the splendid work the (organization benefiting) is doing for the people of Harlem, it gives me pleasure to hand you herewith my check."

(Signed) "James J. WALKER, Mayor."

## Establish Bureaus To Distribute Aid Appoint Four Negro Women Precinct Supervisors— To Provide Work / 2-30-31

Appointment of seventy-nine precinct supervisors to distribute the city's fund of \$5,000,000 for food, clothing, shelter, fuel and medical attention for the needy was announced Monday by Frank J. Taylor, commissioner of Public Welfare, through whose department the fund is being administered.

Four of the thirty-four assigned to Manhattan are young Negro women. They are Miss E. Beatrice McCleary, Precinct 20, whose bureau is located at the High School of Commerce, 156 West Sixty-sixth street; Miss Louise Latimer, Precinct 28, P. S. 10, 117th street at St. Nicholas avenue; Miss Doris L. Madison, Precinct 30, P. S. 48, 917 St. Nicholas avenue; and Mrs. Vivian Carter Mason, Precinct 32, P. S. 119, 255 West 133d street.

In addition to the supervisors there will be 1,500 other employees to distribute aid to destitute homes. Miss Mary L. Gibbons, white, will be in charge of this force. Care of the city's 800,000 unemployed will cost the private, state and city agencies \$45,000,000, Commissioner Taylor estimates.

Bureaus for each police precinct have been established at various public schools which will serve as precinct headquarters. Aid will be administered but no jobs assigned from these bureaus. Commissioner Taylor has ordered that there "be no discrimination in the giving or withholding or relief by reasons of color, race, religion or political connections."

# N. C. Legislature Votes \$10,000 for Negro Welfare Bureau

Raleigh, N. C.—One of the outstanding acts of the North Carolina State Legislature, which ended its 1931 session recently, was the appropriation of \$10,000 for the Division of Negro Welfare of which Lieut. Lawrence Oxley is the head.

## NEGRO WELFARE WORK BACKED BY NORTH CAROLINA

### State Assumes Full Financial Responsibility For Work

RALEIGH, N. C.—North Carolina's 1931 General Assembly, record-breaking in continuous sitting and pertinacity of principle, knocked off May 27 at 9:50 o'clock, at the end of 141 days. The assembly distanced the Reconstruction parliament of 1868-69, which worked to Christmas and then took 124 days for recess. One of the highlights and outstanding acts of the 1931 general assembly was the passage of the general appropriations bill. In this bill provision is included for the state assuming full financial and promotional responsibility for the continuance and expansion of the state-wide program of Negro welfare.

An appropriation of ten thousand dollars was recommended by Governor O. Max Gardner to finance the activities of the Negro welfare program under the direction of Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley, state director of Negro welfare.

Perhaps the chief credit for the successful demonstration of the values of the Negro welfare program should be given Lieut. Oxley, who for seven years has been pioneering and blazing a trail of better community life for all the citizens of North Carolina. North Carolina was the first state in the South to set up such a program for the benefit of the Negro. The program was first begun through the generosity of the Rockefeller Fund. Three years following the original grant from the Rockefeller Fund, an additional grant was made to the state for the continuance and expansion of the original program.

#### Purpose of Division

The purpose of the division of the

division of Negro Welfare was: "(a) To demonstrate the values of a state-wide social welfare program for Negroes, when the same is adequately financed and intelligently directed.

"(b) Intelligent study of the Negro family and community and related social problems and the developing of co-operative program of community service and betterment, this, through emphasis on the great values of self-help effort within the Negro group.

"(c) Correlating constructive community efforts of the Negro community with established activities of the several county and city governments."

In 1924, there was not one Negro community in North Carolina organized for community betterment, only one trained Negro social worker employed, no State provision for the care and training of delinquent Negro boys and girls, no Negro mothers receiving aid from the State Mothers' Aid Fund, no facilities for the care and treatment of tuberculous Negro insane, no hospital facilities for the treatment of orthopedic defects in Negro children, very meagre, if any facts available on social trends in the Negro community, no facts or figures available on the development or retardation of Negro child life, and no provision in North Carolina for the training of Negroes for social work.

The facts which follow speak for themselves and indicate in clear-cut manner the steps in progress toward the achievement of a better and more wholesome Negro communal life.

#### Present Situation

On December 31, 1931, there were 35 counties in North Carolina where welfare work for Negroes was well organized. On the same date there were twenty-six trained Negro social workers employed by cities and counties during the six years \$162,000 were paid as salaries; the Morrison Training School for delinquent Negro boys, a state institution, opened at a cost of over \$100,000; a ward for the care and treatment of orthopedic defects of Negro children, made possible through a gift of \$40,000 from Benjamin Duke; special provision for the care and treatment of tuberculous Negro insane through an appropriation of \$125,000.

Negro mothers now receiving grants from the State Mothers' Aid Fund; three scientific studies, namely: Capital Punishment, School Attendance, and Negro Child Life, have been completed and published as State documents; six annual public welfare institutes have been held, the purpose of these institutes being to provide supplementary training for Negro social workers in departments of public welfare, associated charities, other public and private social agencies, and for workers and staff members in State institutions for defectives, delinquents and dependents.

The Division of Negro Welfare has been responsible to the Governor's Council on Unemployment and Relief for the gathering and tabulating of

facts and figures on the extent to which unemployment and distress existed among the Negro group.

## N. C. WELFARE BODY IS VOTED \$10,000 BUDGET

RALEIGH, N. C.—Giving its endorsement to the welfare work developed by Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley, State Director of Negro Welfare Work, the State Assembly which closed last week appropriated \$10,000 to make that work permanent.

The item, carried in the general appropriation bill, was recommended by Governor O. Max Gardner and citizens here contribute the appropriation to the fine work done by Lieut. Oxley during the seven years he has been pioneering in this field.

#### Rockefeller Fund

The work was started under a grant from the Rockefeller Fund. Oxley set out to demonstrate the value of statewide social welfare programs, to study the Negro family and community and related social problems, and to correlate the community efforts with city and county governmental agencies.

In 1924, there was not one Negro community in North Carolina organized for community betterment; only one trained Negro social worker employed; no State provision for the care and training of delinquent Negro boys and girls; no Negro mothers receiving aid from the State Mothers' Aid Fund; no facilities for the care and treatment of tuberculous Negro insane; no hospital facilities for the treatment of orthopedic defects in Negro children; very meagre, if any, facts available on the social trends or retardation of Negro child life; and no provision within the State of North Carolina for the training of Negroes for social work.

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WINSTON SALEM, N. C.

JOURNAL

JUL 6 1931

### Negro Study Work Advances

The Study Commission, a meritorious movement being conducted among colored women of Winston-Salem, now has adequate quarters for the furthering of its work in the Bethlehem Home, a building that was provided some time ago for the colored people of the city. The Commission recently accepted the Home as the center of its activities at a ceremony that was impressive and highly significant of the interest of both whites and negroes alike.

Mrs. J. H. Jones, wife of a prominent negro minister, inaugurated the Child Study Commission and has worked hard and productively to make it a success. She is unusually well qualified for the work as the interest shown in it indicates. At the acceptance ceremony certificates were given a number of negro women who had finished the course. These will be the better able to carry on the work in their own communities in the city and thus advance the welfare of their race distinctly.

HIGH POINT, N. C.

ENTERPRISE

OCT 8 1931

### AGAIN LIEUTENANT OXLEY ADVANCES GOOD ADVICE

(Winston-Salem Journal)

Lieutenant Lawrence Oxley, of the Department of Public Welfare, brought to Winston-Salem negro citizens Monday night the soundest available advice regarding the way to meet problems that are almost certain to arise during the coming winter.

Although the conference which was held here was extended to considerable length, Lieutenant Oxley summarized the best principles of action in two proposals. He advised the negro citizens to support only the recognized agencies of relief and likewise advised them to do as much as possible to support their part of relief work.

#### NEGROES AND RELIEF.

It's a splendid idea back of the work being done at present by State Director Lawrence A. Oxley, of the division of negro welfare, State Board of Welfare, who is conducting a campaign throughout North Carolina to enlist the active co-operation of the colored people in relief work. The idea was presented at the district conference held last night at Grace A. M. E. Zion church in Charlotte, which was held under the auspices of Governor Gardner's Council for Unemployment Relief.

The campaign in which Lieutenant Oxley is devoting his time and energies, is designed to enlist the full co-operation of the negro race, as individuals, lodges, churches, etc., in the support of the established relief agencies. Lieutenant Oxley believes that the resources of the negro race in North Carolina as a whole has never been adequately tapped as a source of relief, despite the fact that 60 per cent of the calls for aid in the State have been made by negroes, who represent only about 29 per cent of the total population. It is hoped to interest all the negroes who have an income in contributing to the relief funds, through the established agencies, such as the Associated Charities, Red Cross, Salvation Army.

# Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931.

Winston-Salem, N. C. Sentinel  
Sunday, January 18, 1931

## State First In Negro Welfare

### Budget Appropriation Is Increased for 1931-33 Biennium

Raleigh, Jan. 17 (AP)—One small item in the maze of figures in the biennium budget shows that the appropriation for negro welfare work is recommended to be increased for the 1931-33 biennium.

The amount asked to carry on this work the next two years is \$8,860 as compared with \$7,800 last biennium.

There are several interesting facts about this phase of North Carolina's public welfare program.

North Carolina was the first state in the union to set up a state-wide program for the benefit of the negro race. This program was first begun through the generosity of the Laura Spelman-Rockefeller fund, an endowment set up by John D. Rockefeller as a memorial to his wife.

Three years after the division of work among negroes was created in 1925, funds were exhausted, but another grant of \$16,000 was made to continue the work for three more years.

That was in 1927. The same year, Julius Rosenwald, another philanthropist of New York, was in his library one night reading an article in a magazine by Lawrence A. Oxley, director of the division of work among negroes, and a negro himself.

Rosenwald was so impressed with the work being done for the colored folks in North Carolina that he offered to give \$5,000 for a study of negro child life if a like sum would be raised here. It was raised, a large part of it in pennies, nickles and dimes from negro school children and teachers.

Now, at the end of six years, North Carolina is asked to take over this program. The state has a program for negro education, directed by Dr. N. C. Newbold, of the state department of education, and a farm and home program for rural negroes directed at the Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro, and a number of negro nurses in the county health departments.

The main purpose of this negro work is to arouse the negro to help himself. Welfare officials point out there is much filth, degradation, disease and crime among the negro and that housing conditions are bad.

Negro social work also is an important problem facing welfare workers. Fifty-one thousand dollars was paid to negro social workers from 1928 to 1930 and of this amount, \$11,000 was contributed by negro individuals and organizations, \$32,000 was appropriated from public funds, and the balance was raised from private sources.

### A Step In The Right Direction

GOVERNOR O. MAX GARDNER of North Carolina has recommended in his budget message to the legislature that the state take over the division of Negro Welfare of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare. The work has been financed for the past six years by the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Fund and Julius Rosenwald. Adopted by the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare as an experiment when Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson was the head, the division for Negro welfare has more than made good under the direction of Laurence A. Oxley, an ex-service man who served as a lieutenant during the world war. To the work Mr. Oxley brought such vision and resourcefulness that it has become a vital part of the state's Public Welfare department.

Especially noteworthy has been Mr. Oxley's work in behalf of the population of the state's penal institutions. It was largely through his efforts that Alvin Mansel, young Negro, who was sentenced to death for a crime which he did not commit, got numerous rehearings and was pardoned last fall by Governor Gardner.

One of Mr. Oxley's best achievements was to interest Mr. B. N. Duke in giving \$40,000 for the erection of a ward for Negro crippled children at the Orthopedic hospital at Gastonia.

Governor Gardner recently commissioned Mr. Oxley a member of the State Council on Unemployment and Relief and he is now giving much of his time to that work. At his request the Mayors of seven cities in the Piedmont section—Salisbury, Lexington, High Point, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, Greensboro and Raleigh—have appointed committees to work toward relief of the unemployed in their Negro sections.

The most significant thing in this whole development is the recognition of capable Negro leadership in the field of Public Welfare by the state of North Carolina. It has set an example which could be emulated with profit by other states.

Raleigh, N. C. News and Observer  
Sunday, January 18, 1931

## Negro Welfare Program Falls Back upon State

### Rockefeller and Rosenwald Funds Thus Far Have Aided Financial Support

North Carolina's public welfare program for Negroes, financed during the first six years of its growth through the generosity of an endowment fund of New York City, must be taken over by the State, July 1, 1931, if it is to be continued. Governor O. Max Gardner, in his budget message to the legislature last Monday night recommended that the State make an appropriation for the Negro welfare work along with other divisions in the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare.

There are several interesting facts about this phase of North Carolina's public welfare program. North Carolina was the first state in the Union to set up a state-wide program for the benefit of the Negro race. This program was first begun through the generosity of the Laura Spelman-Rockefeller fund, an endowment fund set up by John D. Rockefeller as a memorial to his wife. Three years after the Division of Work Among Negroes was created in 1925, funds were exhausted, but another grant of \$16,600 was made to continue the work for three more years.

In 1927. The same year, Julius Rosenwald, another philanthropist of New York City, was in his library one night reading an article in the Survey magazine, by Lawrence A. Oxley, director of the Division of Work Among Negroes, and a Negro himself. He was so impressed with the work being done for colored folks in North Carolina that he offered to give \$5,000 for a study of Negro child life if a like sum would be raised here. It was raised, a large part of it in pennies, nickles and dimes, from Negro school children and teachers.

Now, at the end of six years, North Carolina is asked to take over this program as an integral part of the State government. The State has a program for Negro education, directed by Dr. N. C. Newbold of the State Department of Education, and a farm home program for rural Negroes directed at the A. and T. College in Greensboro, and a number of Negro nurses in the county health departments.

The main purpose of this Negro

work is to arouse the Negro to help himself. All are familiar with the conditions under which a large number of the Negroes of the State are now living. There is much filth, degradation, disease and crime. Housing conditions are bad. There is a high rate of illegitimacy, with low moral standards prevailing, especially in crowded and dirty quarters. The child going out from many Negro homes has little chance of being able to adjust and learn at school, and less chance to learn to become useful and upright citizens when he is grown.

For this reason, the response of the Negro people to North Carolina's public welfare program is significant. It indicates that they realize the morass in which a large percentage of our black population have been living, and they are anxious to help themselves out of it. They have organized their counties for work, thirty-five counties now having welfare committees or trained Negro workers; they have given generously of their slender means to help pay for trained workers, for building at our training schools for delinquent youth, to the Negro community chests.

Of the \$51,000 paid to Negro social workers in the biennial period, 1928-30, \$11,000 was contributed by Negro individuals and organizations, \$32,000 was appropriated from public funds, and the balance was raised from private sources.

In twelve of those counties which have not yet been able to afford a Negro welfare worker, there are committees of Negro leaders who do a great deal of volunteer work. Eventually, these counties may employ a full-time Negro social worker, but until then, the county welfare officer finds valuable assistance in the Negro advisory committee which concerns itself with the needs of the unfortunate among the colored race. In practically every county having a worker, there is also a committee.

Perhaps one of the best reasons why North Carolina Negroes have so freely expressed their concern for the needs of their people is the fact that Negro leadership has been relied upon. Lawrence A. Oxley, director of the Division of Work Among Negroes, is really leader in the Negro public welfare work of the State.

Oxley has rendered an important service as mediator between the races. He is called upon frequently by State officials to interpret the attitude of the State to his people.

For instance, the night of the mob violence in connection with the Mansel case in Asheville in 1925, Oxley



LIEUT. LAURENCE OXLEY.

was sent to that city to prevent race rioting. A huge mass meeting was called on Sunday afternoon and Oxley spoke before an audience that jammed the building, an audience of incensed Negroes who were verging on rebellion. The crowd went away placated. He has frequently been called upon to investigate cases for parole. Every one of his recommendations for clemency in cases of capital sentence has received favorable action.

At present Oxley is giving practically his full time to organization of Negro committees in connection with the Governor's State Council on Unemployment and Relief. In seven cities of the eastern Piedmont sections, he has visited among the Negroes. In each of these the mayor has appointed city committees to work toward relief of the unemployed among the Negro sections. These cities are Salisbury, Lexington, High Point, Winston-Salem, Charlotte, Greensboro and Raleigh.

As a member of fraternal orders, State and local organizations, and leader among his people, Lieutenant Oxley has been able to arouse widespread interest in the program of Negro work. An orator of ability, he has taken the message of the work to practically all the State institutions, both for white and for colored, to mass meetings, to religious gatherings, to national organizations, such as National Association of Teachers in Negro schools, National Parent-Teacher Association, National Urban League on Urban Conditions among Negroes, National Conference of Social Work, Virginia Negro Organization Society, North Carolina State Interracial Commis-

sion, and the National Interracial Conference held at Washington, D. C. Last fall, he was appointed member of an advisory committee on the Negro to the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection.

Lieutenant Oxley is department vice-commander of the American Legion in North Carolina, in charge of stimulating the Legion's program among Negroes. Incidentally, he is the only Negro department vice-commander in the international American Legion.

Educational opportunity for the Negro child has been a goal of the State for many years. It is only within the past six years that a definite public welfare program with a view to aiding the Negro has been begun. The response has indicated a deep concern on the part of the entire public for the Negro's welfare; for one group would not wish nor could not hope, to raise its standards, and elevate its own people while no helping hand was being lifted to give aid to a less fortunate group living close by. With the Negro population 870,000 or about 29.7 per cent. of the State's entire population, their welfare must be considered as a part of the general program of public welfare in North Carolina.

Only a few years ago, Negro club women of the State established the North Carolina Industrial Training School for Negro girls at Efland. The story of their heroic sacrifice to build a school where the wayward girls of their race would have a chance to remake their lives is an interesting chapter in the chronicle of a people only three generations removed from slavery. Each year since 1925, the North Carolina Federation of Negro Club Women has offered this school to the State as a gift, provided that it be maintained for the benefit of young Negro womanhood. North Carolina, so far, has not seen fit to accept this responsibility, though in 1927 and 1929 the legislature appropriated \$2,000 annually to carry on the work. The school and grounds, valued at \$50,000, will be offered again this year.

One of the difficulties in promoting a public welfare program lies in the scarcity of trained social workers. However, North Carolina is fortunate in having one of the two schools for the training of Negro social workers in the United States, the Bishop Tuttle Training School. The other school of this kind is at Atlanta.

In addition, the Division of Work Among Negroes each year holds an institute for the training of Negro social workers. The attendance at the five institutes has numbered 520. The 1931 institute will be held in March, 1931, at Livingstone College, Salisbury.

An important part of the organization of the public welfare program for Negroes is the Negro advisory

committee to the State board. This committee, headed by Dr. S. G. Atkins, Winston-Salem, is composed of the following members: Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, Charlotte; Dr. Frank W. Avant, Wilmington; Rev. R. I. Johnson, New Bern; Mrs. W. G. Pearson, Durham; Dr. P. M. Smith, Hickory; Rev. J. A. Cotton, Henderson; Miss Adelaide Ruffin, Asheville, and W. P. Evans, Laurinburg.

A few days before Mrs. Kate Burr Johnson's resignation as Commissioner of Public Welfare became effective last spring, the Negro Advisory Committee assembled at the offices of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare to present her with a handsome silver rose bowl and resolutions of regret at her departure. Declaring they came as representatives of the entire Negro group in North Carolina, they voiced gratitude to Mrs. Johnson and the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare for the contribution that had been made to the happiness and welfare of the race. They also pledge the continued interest and cooperation of the Negro race in the state-wide program for public welfare.

Of interest is the fact that B. N. Duke, another philanthropist, has given \$40,000 in two contributions for the erection of a ward for Negro crippled children at the Orthopedic hospital at Gastonia, and for a nurses' home and recreational center. Since North Carolina set the lead other states have established public welfare programs for Negroes. These include Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Michigan, Ohio and Georgia. Virginia uses Negro workers in the field of child placing, though there is no organized state program.

## Negroes Give Aid to Chest

### Group of Colored Citizens Name Committee to Co-operate

A group of colored citizens have formed a voluntary committee for the purpose of co-operating with the Community Chest commission in the solicitation of subscriptions from members of the colored race.

This committee is headed by Dr. W. H. Bruce who communicated to Chest headquarters yesterday the desire of the group he represents to render every co-operation possible in this year's Chest. Through this committee special efforts will be made to secure pledges and contributions from the business and professional interests of the colored population.

Each year there have been a number of negro citizens who make pledges to the Chest and it is the purpose of the committee to increase this number for the 1931

Chest. Members of the committee, representing the colored race, appreciate the work that a number of Chest agencies do for the colored people of the community and they felt it their duty to co-operate in every way possible.

Plans will be worked out next week for the committee to carry on its work of solicitation of pledges during the Chest campaign.

Members of the committee are: Dr. W. H. Bruce, chairman; C. T. Woodland, secretary; H. F. Morgan, F. M. Atkins, Dr. R. S. Hairston, Mrs. E. O. Donahue, Mrs. J. H. Kyles and Mrs. M. I. Neely.

## Bitter Battle Wages In N. C. Legislature Today

Raleigh N. C., Feb. 27 — (AP) — A bitter little group battle over a sociological experiment in North Carolina which has attracted wide attention is going on in legislative circles under cover of the more widely-disputed state-wide issues of schools and roads.

Senator Johnson and Representative Spence, of Moore, sponsored a bill to combine West Southern Pines, one of two incorporated all-negro communities in America with Southern Pines. Then the storm broke.

Lieut. Lawrence Oxley, of the state department of public welfare, told the house committee on counties, cities and towns to protest. He called the self-government of the community "by negroes and for negroes" a great experiment which has attracted the attention of the Rosenwald Foundation and sociologists throughout the country.

Thomas Ruffin, attorney, also appealed for preservation of the separate entity, pointing to its freedom from debt, the freedom from debt of six churches built since incorporation and its decreasing crime figures.

The committee deferred action.

## Fight Rages Over Experiment With Negro Community

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Thomas Ruffin, attorney, also appealed for preservation of the town as a separate entity, pointing to its freedom from debt, the freedom from debt of six churches built since its incorporation in 1923, and its decreasing crime figures.

The committee deferred action.

Fayetteville, N. C. Observer  
Friday, March 29, 1931

## RACIAL PROBLEMS ARE DISCUSSED AT NORMAL MEETING

Welfare Workers Lay  
Plans to Improve Condi-  
tions of Negroes in North  
Carolina

## FIGHT IGNORANCE

Psychologists and Social  
Workers Seek Causes of  
Prevalence of Crime and  
Disease

The progressive spirit which characterizes North Carolina was clearly evident on yesterday when white and colored Christian leaders and citizens met at the Fayetteville State Normal and frankly discussed the welfare conditions and problems of the negro. Facts and conditions were presented and plans for improvement and amelioration were devised.

Lieut. L. A. Oxley discussed community organization. One of the main causes of the prevalence of disease and crime is a lack of active organized forces among these leaders of the communities.

Dr. Harry W. Crane, director division of mental health and hygiene State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, also professor of abnormal psychology of the University of North Carolina, upset some of the theories and tenets of the students of psychology. Dr. Crane assailed several theories and statements, which the students and disciples of Dr. E. L. Thorndike, professor of psychology at Columbia university, New York City, thought to be "law and gospel."

He stated that the majority of social problems can be traced to the mental ill health of individuals; that emotional disturbances increased cases of mental diseases and social crimes. He labeled the theory concerning "parental instincts" and the idea of inherent sex differences as false conceptions and that these "false conceptions" were causing parents to force their children into certain molds of actions and thoughts thus making failures of them be-

cause of their maladjustments and misfits.

Dr. Harry W. Crane will talk to-day on "Feeble-mindedness."

Miss Lily E. Mitchell, director division of child welfare, State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, rendered inestimable services to the institute when she discussed "Case Work." Case work is one of the baffling problems of social workers.

Mr. Roy Eugene Brown, director of division of institutions, State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, also benefited delegates by his presentation of institutional work.

The Normal school male quartette stirred "spice" into the meeting when they sang "Honey" and the favorite "Stew Song."

President E. E. Smith presided over the night session. T. Arnold Hill, member of President Hoover's conference of unemployment, of New York City, delivered the main address.

President Smith stated that each teacher and student was vying with the other in efforts to make the visiting delegates welcome and comfortable. Dr. Smith, a man of varied experiences, urged the young people to be spreaders of "good will" among the races. He has exemplified that spirit throughout the 48 years that he has been preacher and teacher.

President Smith stated that the Flora Macdonald college of Red Springs had invited the male quartette to render an evening's program for the college at Red Springs on Monday night, March 30.

The speaker, T. Arnold Hill, had as his topic, "The Negro in Industry." His talk plainly evidenced the fact that he had and was giving much time and thought to the phases and problems of industry. He had no propaganda; no wounded racial feelings to be soothed with balm; no false ideas and ideals. He stated and discussed facts and urged the social workers to stop looking for "cures," but rather bend their energies on "preventions."

He discussed what was wrong with the economic system under which the negro works: custom, ignorance, failure to grasp the important and valuable things of life.

The State Normal school mixed quartette drew a warm hearty applause from the audience when it sang "Star of Live" and the "Cottage in God's Garden." Professor James E. Coppage, the favorite tenor soloist, carried the auditorium to the realm of delight and amusement when he sang with temper and insight the "Negro Sermon," by Will Cook.

President D. K. Cherry of Kit-

trell college, Professor Hugh V. Brown of Goldsboro, Miss Lucia Freeman and Mrs. Rankin were among the prominent visitors of yesterday.

Among the prominent visitors today is Miss Bertha L. Richards, director Bishop Tuttle School of Social Service, of Raleigh.

A feeling of gloom passed through the meeting when Lieutenant Oxley was called away because of the death of his mother.

President Smith announced that during the week following Easter Sunday, April 7-10, that the faculty of the school of religion, Howard university, Washington, D. C., would hold its annual institute for ministers and Christian workers at the Normal. Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard university, will speak on Friday evening, April 10. Dr. James H. Dillard, Dr. N. C. Newbold and other national leaders and educators will be among the speakers.

Charles G. Rose, president North Carolina Bar association, will preside over the night session. Dr. Carl C. Taylor, dean of graduate school, N. C. State college of Raleigh, will deliver the main address. The public is invited. Music by the Normal school choruses will be rendered.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.

SENTINEL

JUL 19 1931

## Improving Negro Housing Conditions

Negro residents of Winston-Salem are doing a meritorious piece of work in not only studying, but also encouraging others to study, housing conditions among the members of their race in the city. The housing committee is conducting a series of studies and meetings at the Rescue Mission Home that are sure to result in distinct improvement of negro homes in the city.

The negroes of Winston-Salem have shown considerable initiative in improving their living conditions. There are many attractive and comfortable negro homes in the city. This situation is easily seen by driving through the city and investigating even casually the districts where negroes live. Hundreds of negro families are to be congratulated upon their achievements in home ownership.

But there are sections in the city in-

habited by negroes that are sadly in need of improvement. These are all too conspicuous. But the redeeming feature of this sad part of the picture is that the situation is one that can be remedied. And it can be improved if the leaders among the negroes take an active and intelligent interest in the project.

## OXLEY WELDS RELIEF FORCES IN CAROLINA

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Oct. 15.

—(ANP)—Negroes themselves must share as much of the burden made necessary by unemployment, declared Lieut. Lawrence Oxley director of the Negro division of state welfare, at a mass meeting held in the Atkins High School on Saturday night, which was attended by several hundred leading colored citizens and a few whites.

It was the purpose of the welfare director to bring to the audience an idea of the program which is to be followed by Walter G. Gifford, national relief head, and to suggest ways in which state agencies might be helpful in the national program as worked out in the state.

Several white and several colored community leaders followed Mr. Oxley with short talks, including Dr. J. C. White, pastor of the First Baptist Church, who last year donated \$60 each month of his salary to be used for the relief program.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.

SENTINEL

## SEP 20 1931 says Colored People Are Willing to Help But Most of Them Unable

To the Editor of The Journal and Sentinel:

On September 17th upon special invitation of the mayor of the city, a group of negro citizens was invited to attend a meeting at Council Chamber at the City Hall, at which time a very frank and interesting presentation of the social welfare problems was presented by his excellency, out of which I gathered some very interesting data and was convinced that the study of social welfare has provoked no small degree of concern to the officers of Winston-Salem and from all indications a very honest and sincere effort has been, and is being put forth, to alleviate suffering and give temporary relief in some cases.

Special interest, however, centered

around the work of the Rescue Mission and it appears that this institution has been recognized as a clearing house for derelicts and migratory population, needing help and charitable protection.

I am sure the negro population appreciates this work and while the problem of support is to be considered, it is hardly probable that the colored citizens would be able to support adequately, the worthy institutions of our group in the city for obvious reasons, when analyzed in the light of the economic situation. This remains an enterprise to be supported by the Community Chest and such agencies. Unfortunately, it appears that the race percentage to be benefited, places the negro group in the ascendancy, but when opportunity for self maintenance is considered in the light of the incomes or the possibilities to obtain one, the negro group does not enjoy opportunity for livelihood in proportion to the demands made upon him.

Even in the most privileged group of citizens of Winston-Salem, I am of the opinion that financial reverses can be traced to almost every door. This is not because such is not deplored, but when those who are wage earners fail to be able to obtain reasonable living incomes necessarily those who are prepared to render different services of professional nature are also handicapped.

The Rescue Mission is not to be considered the ideal method for such services that would justify the undivided support of all negro citizens, for frankly stated, there are some that will not personally support the institution, nor will it appeal to their interest, for the reason that stabilizing citizenship will have a stronger appeal. The Phillis Wheatly Home, doing in part social service work similar to the work of the Rescue Mission, would recommend itself or support in this connection and would also make a stronger appeal for the good of the city. True, it is in part a semi-civic institution, but the service rendered would mean more to the object in mind, I have no doubt.

To say that the negro does not respond to the needs of his people when charity and welfare service is required, as would be expected of white citizens, is much against the

point, for when one is forced to recognize a sense of embarrassment in such a crisis. It is not to be expected that there would not be a desire to recoil from such things, realizing one's inability to cope with the situation.

I am sure every colored citizen is willing to help that and any other worthy cause of civic endeavor. But this matter of self-support in the light of resources forces the negro to the place of expectancy and dependence, yet upon those who are most able.

—J. HERBERT JONES.  
Winston-Salem, N. C.,  
Sept. 19, 1931.

**WINSTON SALEM, N. C.**  
**SENTINEL**

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Winston-Salem, N. C.,  
Sept. 19, 1931.

**WINSTON SALEM, N. C.**

**JOURNAL**  
**OCT 7 - 1931**  
**Again Lieutenant Oxley**  
**Advances Good Advice**

Lieutenant Lawrence Oxley, of the Department of Public Welfare, brought to Winston-Salem negro citizens Monday night the soundest available advice regarding the way to meet problems that are almost certain to arise during the coming winter.

Although the conference which was held here was extended to considerable length, Lieutenant Oxley summarized the best principles of action in two proposals. He advised the negro citizens to support only the recognized agencies of relief and likewise advised them to do as much as possible to support their part of relief work.

Of course, neither Lieutenant Oxley nor any other member of the speaking staff advised against giving a destitute man or woman a meal or small sustaining gift. However, all pointed to the wisdom of making certain that a case was worthy before venturing aid.

It is possible to do this quite easily. A worthy case can always receive attention

at one of the organized agencies of relief. If anyone refuses to go to these agencies, all of the speakers agreed, he usually deserves nothing and should not be given the sympathetic attention of a public spirited person.

It is apparent that the coming winter will work great hardship on unemployed people and, consequently, a great hardship on charitable and relief agencies. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the colored citizens to see that they do not scatter their means of relief by spending them through inefficient or questionable methods. White and colored citizens are bound to work together this winter if suffering is to be kept at a minimum.

Ohio

# WILLS TO SPEAK IN PITTSBURGH

*Call and*  
*2-25-31*  
J. W. Wills, Sr., co-founder and secretary of the trustee board of the Negro Welfare Association, President of the Empire Savings and Loan Bank and the J. W. Wills Co., funeral directors of Cleveland, who will deliver an address to three hundred members of the Business League of Pittsburgh, Pa., at the Center Ave. Y. M. C. A. Sunday, April 26th, at 4 p.m. His subject will be, "Negro Business and Its Relation to the Problem of Vocational Opportunity for Negro Workers." The meetings will be a special feature of Negro Opportunity Week in Pittsburgh.

COLUMBUS, O.

CITIZEN

OCT-2-2-1931

Negro Charity

Editor of Citizen:

THE Industrial Rescue Mission, a worthy charity, which does not participate in the Community Chest, asks that the people divide their charity donation this year so that a part should come to it.

This mission is the only agency in Columbus where a Negro, homeless, hungry and destitute, may find shelter, food and clothing until he can secure work or transportation. In this year of unemployment the colored people are suffering more than others, as the friends of their kind are also in need and are unable to help them. They must depend upon the white people to help.

The Industrial Rescue Mission was organized 18 years ago by its present superintendent, Rev. W. W. Billings, and has functioned under his guidance ever since. For several years the mission participated in the Community Chest. However, at the beginning of this year aid from this source was denied.

At the same time, other organizations that do participate in the Community Chest send destitute colored people to the mission. We refer you to the county commissioners and to the City Police Department as to the value of the services which are rendered by the mission. The desk sergeant at the city prison sends all colored persons seeking aid to the mission at 338 S. Seventh street.

Besides caring for homeless people,

the mission also distributes food, clothing and other home supplies to needy people, regardless of race or creed. On account of the unusual demand this year the mission must increase its request for money up to \$12,000.

Our treasurer, Mr. H. W. Cly, will issue a receipt for any contributions addressed to the Rescue Mission.—Henry W. Cotner, Chairman, Campaign Fund.

DAYTON, O.

NEWS

OCT 24 1931

NEGROES WANT A CHANCE, NOT CHARITY

To the Editor of The News:

The financial depression and unemployment have been with us so long that they are testing the powers of government, the honesty of our best citizens and even the faith of Christianity.

Our charity organizations have been greatly reduced in their supplies and in many cases have become bored by the people who are forced to rely upon them for the absolute necessities of life.

Jobs are so scarce that when one is open employers are besieged by an army of men seeking an opportunity to honestly earn bread for themselves and those dependent upon them.

Many honest, industrious and self-respecting men have been without work so long that they are now forced to ask for charity, when in other days they were contributors to these same organizations.

The Negroes were among the first to begin losing their jobs and have been jobless longer than others and hence are now in the direst need.

Having labored with them as pastor for 14 years, I have first-hand knowledge of their ideals and anxieties to earn their own support rather than live at the expense of the city. It is true that there is a shiftless class in every race and community that is willing to be a leech on charitable agencies, but there is another class of Negroes that are honest, industrious and public spirited that have suffered almost to the point of desperation rather than become wards of the city. The cry of children for bread, in the ears of a father who has neither job, money nor credit is a severe test of his manhood, hitherto unstained by any violation of honor or law.

The pinch of cold, the bite of hunger and the love of children are often responsible for new names appearing on the police blotter.

Having gone in and out of the homes of the Negroes as a pastor for 14 years, in a humble way trying to minister to their spiritual needs, I now feel called upon to appeal to the Christian conscience and social justice of those able to help in their material needs by giving them a chance.

We feel warranted in saying that it is a

chance, not for charity, that they most earnestly plead for. Many of them prefer to work every day in a week to asking for charity one day in a month. Some kind of work a few hours a day or a few days of work in a week will do more to maintain the morale of the Negroes than forcing them into bread lines or dragging them into prison for yielding to temptations growing out of the pressure of unsupplied needs.

As we have preached honesty, industry and self-support to the Negroes, we are now appealing to those in industrial and civil authority to give them just consideration, even in part-time employment.

Any opportunity for employment may be reported to the writer, or, if for women, to the Fifth Street Y. W. C. A.; for men, to the Fifth Street Y. M. C. A. or Linden Center.

T. J. SMITH,

Pastor Zion Baptist Church,

830 W. Fifth St., Dayton.  
Dayton.

## Social Workers in Ohio End Confab

WARREN, Ohio, Oct. 30.—The Ohio conference on social work among Race members, a division of the Ohio welfare conference, which convened for two days in the Mayflower hotel, Akron, closed last week. The theme of the conference was "Unemployment and its effect upon Negroes as indicated by broken homes; their need for material relief, and a decreased crime rate." The speakers were Mrs. Drucilla Clay, Shoemaker Welfare Center, Cincinnati; Mrs. Helen Knight, Family Service society, Akron; and L. M. Shaw, director, Friendly Service bureau, Columbus.

An interesting discussion followed these addresses. Among those participating were Dr. Detweiler, professor of sociology and economics, Dennison university; Miss Campbell, board of education, Cincinnati; J. M. Ragland, Civic Welfare association, Cincinnati; and George W. Thompson, Association for Community Work, Akron. Nimrod Allen, Columbus Urban league, and Dean S. Yarbrough, Warren Urban league, presided at the various sessions. Most of the cities in Ohio with sizable Race populations were represented.

The conference went on record as favoring the concentration of effort on the employment of Race teachers in the public school throughout the state upon the basis of complete equality with other races.

*Review*  
*Dayton, O.*

OCT 23 1931

WHAT, NO FISH?

Editor, The Dayton Review:

Colored people are resenting the report of Franky Wheeler for the Democratic Welfare club, sponsored by him and Hunter Robinson over on the West Side, and known among colored people as the Welfare Fly emporium.

Wheeler reported that the organization had given in the past 10 months to indigent colored people 220 tons of meat. Now that is 440,000 pounds. (Gosh!) Fed 70,000 people.

Now that is three and a half times as many colored people as there are in the city of Dayton. (For heaven's sake!) Gotten 390 jobs for colored people in 10 months, and the employment bureau has not been able to get even 100 jobs for the same race group. (Ain't that sompun?) Expended \$1400 in cash. (Where will it end?) Given away 2000 bushels of potatoes. (Page Julius Rosenwald!) Given away 10,000 loaves of bread. (Mave mercy, Lord!) Given away 20 tons of coal. (Fair and warmer.) Given away 2000 gallons of milk. (Mary, call the cattle home.) And a hundred other things which called for the plaudits of Mr. Fluker, who was present and said that Hunter Robinson and Franky Wheeler were the two greatest colored leaders of their day and age in Dayton and had done more than the Red Cross, Community chest and Family Welfare.

Hunter Robinson then took the floor and proceeded to flay negro leadership, classing them as Judases and other names as vile, holding himself and Wheeler as angels with white, well-grown wings and other beings of celestial character till the chairman had to call him to order lest he take the throne itself.

Judge Hodapp followed Hunter and made a public apology for many things that had been said, decrying any responsibility for the vitrol that had been previously poured, and announced his own candidacy as the people's justice-to-all candidate. WEST SIDER.

# WUMAN BUILDS MOST OUTSTANDING SOCIAL AGENCY IN BLACK AMERICA

Miss Jane E. Hunter  
Sees Early Dreams  
Come True

"The most outstanding social agency for colored girls and women to be found anywhere in the United States," is what Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee, has said of the Phillis Wheatley Association of Cleveland, Ohio; and one could easily add that one of the most socially far-sighted leaders of women in America is Miss Jane Hunter, the founder of the association and now its general secretary.

November 11, past, marked the twentieth anniversary of the launching of a movement to secure for those colored women and girls who were crossing the Mason and Dixon Line, and coming north, some kind of social direction and guidance as would fit them for their new life and save them from the many pitfalls that so many young women of all races are so often heir to. Miss Hunter tells in the current issue of the Southern Workman.

Charleston, S. C., News & Courier  
Saturday, February 20, 1931

## Day Nursery for Negroes Planned

A report showing the apparent feasibility of establishing a day nursery for negro children in Charleston has been submitted to the Council of Social Agencies by the committee named to investigate the question, it was announced at headquarters yesterday.

The report was endorsed by the council at a well attended meeting and will now be presented to the board of directors of the community chest, with a definite outline of the plan involved and a statement of the estimated cost of care per child each year.

A small charge, not to exceed 10 cents a day, will be made for the accommodation of the children, it was decided. The committee, headed by Miss Frances Bulow, has located a room which may be obtained, rent free, and the nurses of the negro hospital have volunteered their aid in the preparation of formulae and other matters. The Junior league of Charleston has agreed to supply a part of the powdered milk to be used and the remainder of the supply needed may be secured at a small cost.

Negro women's clubs, the ministerial unions and negro doctors have agreed to support the nursery, Miss Bulow said. The clubs will furnish the necessary equipment. About \$35 a year will be necessary to support a baby, Miss Ellie C. Nelson, superintendent of public health nurses, has estimated. Miss Fanny Duvall, of St. Andrew's, the Episcopal mission on upper King street, has been associated with the council in its plans.

The formation of a boys club, a branch of the national organization, is now favored for negro boys of the city. The plan has been endorsed by Miss Florida Bissell, director of the city league of social welfare and by Mrs. Clelia D. McGowan, of the inter-racial committee.

## BETTER HOMES WEEK AT ST. HELENA ISLAND

St. Helena Island, S. C.—From April 27 through May 2, will be known as Better Homes Week on St. Helena Island. During this week, model homes including gardens will be demonstrated.

A new home recently completed by Penn School students of the carpentry department, under supervision of B. F. Boyd, who has charge of this department, has been selected as the main demonstration home. Various committees are responsible

for furnishing this home and beautifying the lawn. Every effort is being put forth to make this a real model for the community people and it is hoped that each home maker will be awakened to the importance of a well arranged and organized home.

A very interesting feature in the demonstrations will be the miniature better home, known as "The Handy Home," arranged and furnished by the students in home management, under the supervision of the teachers.

The entire program is as follows: Monday, demonstration of Maria J. Chaplin's home; Tuesday, Baby Day; Wednesday, demonstration; Day: Wednesday, the Handy Home and Founders Hall annex will be visited; Thursday and Friday, home or roll days. On these days all the homes that have been used for demonstration houses in former years will be visited and special features such as a home garden or some project at each place.

This event is under the chairmanship of W. Mabel Price, home demonstration agent.

Columbia, S. C. 55 to  
Tuesday, Feb. 22, 1931

## FORMALLY OPENS NEGRO CENTER

Formal opening of the playground and community center at the old Howard school for Negroes will be held at 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon, according to announcement of W. Bedford Moore, Jr., councilman in charge of playgrounds. The playground is situated at the corner of Lincoln and Hampton streets.

Under supervision of Miss Adele Minahan, playground superintendent, the old school building has been reconditioned. The building is now composed of two assembly halls, two club rooms and two rest rooms. The playground is equipped with swings, slides, giant strides, seesaws and sand boxes for the smaller children. Provision will be made for baseball, basketball, croquet and other outdoor games.

Columbia was the first city in South Carolina to provide a playground for Negroes. The first one was established in 1922 at the Benedict college campus.

Edgefield, S. C. 55 to  
Wednesday, Feb. 27, 1931

## Notice

To the colored people of Edgefield County: We take this means of informing you of what we have raised and thanking you for your splendid cooperation in the drive to raise funds to buy equipment for the Reynolds Memorial Home.

In spite of the financial depression, you are to be commended for the very excellent way you have responded to this cause which shows the deep appreciation our people have for worthy people and worthy causes. We again thank Mr. Reynolds for this outstanding gift to the unfortunates of the county. Contributions as follows:

Through the County Teachers' Association:

W. E. Parker	\$1.00
A. W. Nicholson	1.00
P. L. Anderson	1.00
J. R. Freeman	1.00
Ruby Graham	1.00
Addie Cumming	1.00
Rosa Parker	1.00
Essie Holmes	1.00
Gussie Rutherford	1.00
Mary Nance	1.00
Eliza Logan	1.00
Sarah Anderson	1.00
Louise Goodwine	1.00
Eloise Janerette	1.00
S. L. Collins	1.00
Joe Lanham	1.00
Louella Nicholson	1.00
Mamie Palmore	1.00
Lugenia Perry	1.00
James Davis	.50
Lillie K. Leake	1.00
Louise Gosby	1.00
Lucile Simkins	1.00
Minnie B. Bright	1.00
Florence Lanham	1.00
Charlotte Tilman	1.00
J. S. McManus	1.00
Anna Rearden	1.00
Hortense Weaver	1.00
Sarah Ryans	1.00
Helen Baker	1.00
Dan Mitchell	1.00
Alberta Oliphant	1.00
Rebecca Broadwater	1.00
Louise Diggs	1.00
Sophia Blalock	1.00
Shida Watson	1.00
Milton Strother	1.00

Simmons Ridge Church and Sunday School	\$5.00
Shaws Creek Church	3.25
Freeman Spring Grove (R. E. Collins)	4.00
Pleasant Grove Church (L. W. Collins)	2.00
Log Creek Society (Chas. Perry)	1.00

Springfield Church and Sunday School (P. L. Anderson)	5.00
Edgefield County Training School (C. O. McIntosh)	6.25
Rock Hill School	3.00
Pleasant Lane Church and Sunday School	11.31
J. W. Turner	1.00
Westly Aid Society	2.50
Pleasant Grove Society	5.00
Mt. Canaan Church	5.00
Willowspring Church	1.50
Mt. Calvary Church	1.10
Jeter hurch	3.39
Mutual Aid Society	2.50
Pleasant Grove Sunday School	5.00
Republican Grove Church	2.00
Total	\$106.30

Walhalla, S. C. 55 to  
Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1931

## for Beautifying Homes

During this month two weeks in succession are being celebrated nationally—the first, April 19th to 25th, being National Garden Week, and immediately following, from April 26th to May 2d, being Better Homes Week.

These two events should be of interest to every woman in South Carolina, for what woman is there who doesn't love a garden, or who isn't interested in a better, more convenient or more attractive home? And to the extent of her interest every woman is being asked to observe these two weeks. Garden beauty, like charity, should begin at home, but neither should stop there. The influence of beautiful home gardens cannot be gauged, but would be difficult to overestimate. Home gardens are merely the nuclei from which this garden beauty grows. National Garden Week should act as a fresh impetus to beautify homes, cities, roads, schools, churches, and public institutions. During this week let our aim be to spread beauty all over the neighborhood.

Attractive gardens, either in town or country, usually mean neat and well kept grounds and buildings, a family that is enjoying life, and a place where people couldn't help being home loving.

The surroundings of the country farm or home might be termed three outdoor rooms. The front yard, the living room, where on a hot Sunday afternoon or in the evening after the

work is done, one rests on the porch or under the trees. The vegetable garden is the dining room—for one leads up to the other, and the farm yard is the kitchen—the scene of a deal of one's work.

Without extravagant landscaping, and with the use of many of our lovely native evergreens from the nearby woods, any farm home can be made "a thing of beauty and a joy forever" at practically no cost except time and labor.

May this be a place to the farmers, as well as their wives, to begin today to plan to beautify, and make attractive their outdoor rooms.

And with attractive surroundings soon will follow better homes. White-wash is cheap and easily made. A

good coat of whitewash on fences, barns, and outhouses will put new

"pep" in any community, and do away with that dejected appearance that

looks as if spring fever had every home in its grip. An era of whitewashing throughout the State, coupled with

a clean-up and paint-up campaign, wherever possible, and a little trans-

formation of "outdoor rooms" would mean a new and encouraged rural South Carolina.

Let us also extend our efforts beyond the city limits to the highways.

Schools also have no excuse to be without some planting. With proper

care and understanding a school may become a very paradise of welcome.

National Garden Week is a great success if it enriches the countryside so

as to bring back the original beauty of our land.

Better Homes Week offers an excellent time to stage a "Clean-up and

Paint-up Campaign." There are this year in South Carolina 105 Better

Homes chairmen for whites and 38 for colored people, working on programs

of bettering home conditions in their respective communities.

The Better Homes movement is not intended to encourage the building of

expensive homes or the purchasing of expensive furnishings or equipment.

Quite the contrary, it is to encourage modest, well-kept homes and to inspire worthy home life.

Remember the dates, April 19th to 25th—National Garden Week—and April 26th to May 2d—Better Homes Week.

**COLUMBIA, S. C.**  
**STATE**

**OCT 21 1931**

**Rising to Responsibilities—  
A Splendid Illustration.**

Drives for funds for Community Chests are on all over the United States. In Washington on Monday the Association of Community Chests and Councils gave out the information that nine towns had already reported "overflowing" chests, meaning that the budgets had been oversubscribed.

We had not before heard of Green Bay, Wisconsin, or of Bellingham, Washington. Yesterday was probably the first time their names had ever appeared in an Associated Press dispatch printed in this part of the country. Both of them have oversubscribed their chests, the aggregate for those two little towns being over one hundred thousand dollars.

In his talk on Monday night to a group of advance workers for the Columbia Community Chest, Dr. Henry D. Phillips, who is heading the campaign organization, said he did not think Columbia had ever taken the chest seriously. That is true, but there are indications that the attitude will be different this fall. There is a growing feeling that it is obligatory upon us to meet the demands.

The following facts were published yesterday but they will hear repeating. They should be made known to all Columbians as an illustration of what can be done, and what has been done by a small group in this city. Impressed by Doctor Phillips's report that in Denver, Colorado, each policeman and fireman contributed to the chest one day's pay each month for five months, Mr. Stackhouse designated an employe to sign up the workers of the Standard Warehouse Company.

Numbers of Negroes are employed there who receive \$10 a week. Those were simply told the purposes of the Chest and the need to help the helpless.

**Result:** Practically 100 per cent. response providing an aggregate fund not far below \$500. And each of the workers who supports his family on a wage of \$10 a week, gives \$8 to the Community Chest

Those are figures to make many of us ponder; also to "compare."

## Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931

Nashville, Tenn., Tuesday, February 2, 1931

EPISCOPALIANS PLAN  
COMMUNITY HOUSEA. Myron Cochran to Direct  
Institution for Negroes'  
Welfare.

As a forward step in the realm of social service, the Episcopal Church of Nashville plans the opening of a Social Center or Community House in South Nashville for Negroes at an early date, according to the announcement of the Rev. Prentice A. Pugh, rector of the Church of the Advent, who is chairman of the Board of Control for the institution. The Rev. A. Myron Cochran, rector of the Holy Trinity Church, colored, will be the director for the Community House.

The establishment of a Community House in South Nashville to serve the Negroes of that section primarily but open to all the colored people of the city has been made possible by the gift of Mrs. Pattie Rhodes, wife of the late James Rhodes and a parishoner of Christ Church, of property located at 623 Ewing Avenue, South, formerly used at the Florence Crittenton Home.

Although the property had been turned over to the Episcopal Church for a social center the past year, the legal aspects of the transaction had not been completed until recently and the gift formally accepted by the Bishop and Council until the latter's meeting here the past Tuesday. At the final session of the Diocesan Convention at Christ Church Thursday the action of the Bishop and Council was ratified by the adoption of a resolution presented by Charles S. Martin of Nashville, member of the special committee appointed by the Bishop and Council to have charge of the plans for the new work. Mr. Martin also presented a resolution thanking Mrs. Rhodes for the gift, which was unanimously adopted.

Other members of the Bishop and Council's special committee, besides Mr. Martin, are: The Rev. Prentice A. Pugh, Judge Arthur Crowder, of Nashville, and S. A. Shepherd of Memphis, chancellor for the Diocese. It is reported that according to a survey made recently by the department of sociology of Nashville, the property for the proposed settlement house is located in Nashville's area of greatest delinquency.

Repairing and putting the property in a first class condition will be done as soon as possible so that the activities may be inaugurated within a few weeks.

## PROGRAM OUTLINED

The Rev. A. Myron Cochran, the director, announces that the program outlined for the social center will comprise the operation of boys' clubs, girls' clubs, mothers' clubs, a day home for the care of the small children of mothers who have to work out, the

operation of clinics, a kindergarten for children under public school age, the maintenance of a Home for girls who come from the rural districts to work in Nashville, the maintenance of gymnasium and playground where the young people can be given a larger chance than they now have for the development and care of their bodies, and for a general program that will contribute to the character development of all whom the work touches, either directly or indirectly.

In connection with the program planned by the Episcopal Church, Director Cochran paid a tribute to that carried on by the Methodists, saying that "every citizen of Nashville is deeply appreciative of the fine program of social service, which has been carried on for a number of years by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and is known as Bethlehem Center. The planning of this settlement work in the southern section of the city has not the remotest idea of offsetting the great work which is being carried on at the corner of Fifteenth Avenue, North, and Cedar Streets; but rather it is being planned with the hearty co-operation, endorsement and somewhat the direction of the older and long established work at Bethlehem Center.

The plans for the new work have the hearty endorsement of the Negro citizens, and many of the white citizens have signified their interest and desire to see it go forward.

He also said that the plans for the work include no thought of denominationalism, as the social center will seek to serve as many as its facilities will permit. He further reports that the full program proposed will not be inaugurated at the same time but that various activities will be introduced as the conditions permit and the means for expansion allow.

As a benefit for the proposed social center, Director Cochran announced a concert at the Roman Auditorium, April 8, by Marian Anderson, regarded by critics as the greatest contralto of the Negro race.

Day Nursery Board  
Urges Support Of  
Worthy Institution

The Day Nursery located at the corner of Payne and Patton street is rendering a worthwhile service to the community and the board in control issues an urgent request to the local populace to manifest a greater interest in the operation of the institution.

The nursery was established as a part of the activity of the Inter-Racial Committee of the City Federation of Colored Women's clubs, in April 1930. The Federation looked into the recommendation of the committee that a nursery be established and found that many mothers were kept at home from work that they needed because of having to care for their children.

It was pointed out that the little folk were allowed to run the streets with no one to care for them or feed them during the parents' absence, or they were left with neighbors who charged large sums for their services in caring for the children. In certain instances it was shown that the mothers carried the little ones to work with them, which proved a great handicap.

The need for the nursery was so much in evidence that the present institution was opened to the children on June 1, of last year. The spacious play room, a large building, is donated to the nursery by Rev. J. W. Haywood. Since the nursery was opened for ty children have been cared for. In recent months the number has decreased to ten. The ages range from infancy to seven and eight years. The children who drop in

and out do so because their parents are out of work. The young child at the nursery has been enrolled since she was two months old. She is now a healthy youngster and learning to walk. The nursery is comfortably and modestly equipped, and is clean and sanitary throughout. The playground is as near ideal as any in the city. The schedule provides: 7 to 7:30 a. m., breakfast; 10 a. m., orange juice and cod liver oil; 12 noon, dinner; 1 to 2:15 p. m., rest; 3 p. m., Melon's food drink; out-door play; 5:30 p. m., supper, then home for the little tots.

The afternoon play hour is conducted under the direction of the recreation committee at which time the children are taught constructive play, good manners and the like.

The cost of operating the nursery for ten or fifteen children, is approximately ninety dollars. Through the kindness of liberal friends who not only contribute money toward the expense of operating the institution, but donate food and coal, the nursery is wholly out of debt. Each child contributes ten cents per day which is applied to the operating expense of the nursery.

Several white friends have contributed amounts toward the support of the day nursery, but the support of the institution for the most part has been carried on by members of the Negro racial group. The management desires to emphasize the need of greater support of this institution that is rendering such a worthwhile service to humanity. Mrs. H. M. Green,

general chairman points out as one of the institution's greatest needs, the moral support of the community.

"Very few visitors come to the nursery," Mrs. Green stated, "and consequently the work being accomplished is not generally known. The invitation is extended to all persons, either residents of this city or visitors, to call and look in on the day nursery."

Mrs. Green referred to the need for a greater enrollment. "Eight months of successful operation warrants a larger enrollment at the nursery, and larger and better quarters," Mrs. Green stated.

Need for clearing off the playground and equipment suitable for the smaller of the tots is very much in evidence. Any men who are interested in this worthy cause are extended the invitation to donate a day of their labor to clearing a larger space for the children to play on.

The board is launching a campaign for funds and every individual and organization of the entire racial group is earnestly requested to donate some amount toward the operating expense of the nursery.

The officers of the Day Nursery are: Mrs. H. M. Green general chairman; Mrs. R. H. Johnson, assistant chairman; Mrs. E. F. Lennon, secretary; Miss Hattie Pate, treasurer; Mrs. Beatrice Kennedy, secretary to the treasurer; Mrs. Mattie Miller, chairman of house committee; Mrs. J. N. Eacon, chairman of food committee; Mrs. LaVerta Singleton, chairman of finance committee;

Miss Nellie Jones, chairman of the committee on recreation; Mrs. F. M. EuDailey, chairman of children's committee.

The meetings of the board are held on the first and third Mondays of each month.

The board wishes to thank Miss Laura Smith for donating a ton of coal to the nursery recently.

# Benefit Affair For East Tennessee Day Nursery 3-24-31

The cake-walk to be staged on the spacious platform in Market Hall tonight, Thursday, March 26, at 8 o'clock, revives one of the old time forms of entertainment and this affair promises to be one of the most interesting that has been witnessed in the city.

The participants have been carefully selected and are sufficiently experienced in the art to afford ample entertainment to the most fastidious.

The affair is being arranged as a benefit by the board of managers of the Day Nursery, of which Mrs. H. M. Green is chairman.

Many improvements have been made recently in the housing of the Day Nursery. Larger and better ventilated rooms have been provided for the children. The recreation program has been taken in charge by the young women of the Inter-Collegiate club. Activities consume six hours each week and the young ladies give their services gratis. There is yet need for several beds at the Nursery.

The board is grateful to A. A. Felding for a ton of coal.

The public is cordially invited to visit the Nursery. Please register your name when you visit.

## SAYS BETHLEHEM HOUSE IN NEED OF MORE FUNDS

The need of funds to carry on the work at Bethlehem house was discussed at the meeting of the city mission board of Southern Methodist churches at Wesley Community center yesterday. Bethlehem house is a community center for Negroes. Mattie Moore, colored kindergarten teacher at Bethlehem house, spoke of the need of linen at the clinic. Members of the Negro Mothers' club, she said, furnished the first batch of linen, all but a few towels. There is an enrollment of thirty-eight with an average attendance of thirty at the kindergarten, the teacher said. She stated that the demand is so great that she can easily have a crowd for three sessions a day, if she had the time. A number of the children are ill. Miss Frances Howard, in charge at Bethlehem house, in her report said that the number of visits made were ninety-five; the number received, sixty-four; patients at the clinic, forty-two; operations, six; members in sewing club

ninety-one, with an average attendance of seventy. Miss Howard has given thirty-four Bible talks at Mothers' club meetings and conducted ten church services. Jesse Rowe, a colored singer, brought by Mattie Moore, entertained with two vocal selections.

Mrs. C. B. Hale, first vice-president of the board, who lives near the Wesley Community center, has opened a volunteer kindergarten in this neighborhood. The kindergarten at the center had to be discontinued owing to lack of funds to keep a paid worker in charge. C. W. Whitehead, head of Goodwill Industries, stated that he had been able to produce enough to carry the current expenses of his establishment. Dr. J. M. Carter, presiding elder, gave the invocation.

## ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS PLEGGED TO HELP THE NEEDY NEGRO CITY SCHOOL TEACHERS CONTRIBUTE ONE PER CENT TO COM- MUNITY CHEST

The Negro city school teachers in session at Pearl High School, Monday afternoon, voted to contribute not less than one per cent of their yearly income to the Nashville community chest. The action was taken by one hundred and sixty teachers, principals and supervisors in local schools for Negroes after the meeting had been called to order by Supt. H. G. Srygley and addresses were made outlining the objectives of the 1931 community chest by Pres. W. J. Hale, chairman of the Colored division, J. H. Robinson, secretary of the division, Dr. C. V. Roman, President, Thomas E. Jones and Prof. R. S. Harris.

It is comparatively estimated that this action means a contribution of at least \$1,500 from this group, which amount is more than seven times that given in the 1930 drive.

Plans were laid for conducting an intensive campaign among the pupils in all schools during the next two weeks. Principals and supervisors of Negro schools were placed actively in charge of this work.

It was announced that a resolution similar to that adopted by the Negro city teachers had been passed

unanimously by a group of local business and professional men and by the faculty and staff of Tennessee A. and I. State College.

## COLORED DIVISION PASSES OVER MARK SET TO BE RAISED FOR 1931 NOV 20 1931

### CHAIRMAN W. J. HALE AND HIS WORKERS ES- TABLISH A NEW RECORD FOR DONATIONS

With the meeting of the leaders of the Community Chest and its various divisions Monday, the announcement was made that the Community Chest for 1931 had not only reached its goal but had gone approximately ten or twelve thousand dollars beyond. Early in the week it was not known just how much over they had reported, but on Tuesday morning it was evident that the gross amount of subscriptions and cash was well beyond \$290,000.00, with several of the teams and special workers still to report.

President W. J. Hale and Secretary Robinson, with a number of the members of the colored division met with the general committee at the Maxwell House and reported to the general chairman that they had passed their quota, which was voluntarily made before they entered the Campaign. Their \$100.00, \$50.00 and \$25.00 Clubs which served as an initial gift, which establishes a new record in solicitations and donations.

The women's division had made similar achievements, while the school divisions and the institutions factory groups had outdistanced even their former records in reporting their solicitations, and their funds. A complete and detailed report is to be given out early next week by President Hale and Secretary Robinson, so that the city at large as well as the workers together may know the completeness with which the Campaign was put over.

It is said that it was the most

systematic and thorough campaign ever conducted by the colored division. In recognition of the service rendered and cooperation given Chairman Hale has announced that at an early date, as soon as the work of his school will permit after the adjournment of the legislature, he will invite every worker to meet him at State College where he will thank them individually as well as collectively.

Having finished their work, the Community Chest, Colored Division headquarters which was being conducted in the lobby of the Citizens Savings Bank at the Colored Y, was closed, abandoned, given up.

"We have completed our work for the year, it will not be necessary therefore, to continue the downtown office and headquarters," said President Hale. "While I have worked in a lot of drives in campaigns, I have never seen such a beautiful spirit exhibited as was shown in this one," said Prof. Robinson.

All of these statements and many more by workers and leaders percolated through the city were heard on the streets and in various groups as the announcement of the goal for the year was reached.

## FUND DOES AID NEGROES

### Charity Disbursed Without Regard to Race, Doubters Are Told

Reports that Community Fund workers approaching negroes for contributions are asked what the fund does for negroes, brought a precise reply yesterday from fund headquarters.

Three of the 26 agencies during the fiscal year just closed spent \$41,153 for the relief of negroes in this community. The reply said, "In addition to this, 150 negro boys are enjoying the benefits of character building through the Boy Scouts, which is supported in part by the Community Fund."

"The Red Cross is one of the participating agencies, and 62 per cent of all ex-service men aided by the Red Cross during the year were negroes.

"The Legal Aid Society gave free legal advice to 203 negroes. The Travelers' Aid, one of the participating agencies, aided 497 colored families in various ways. Not only do the negroes of this community receive the necessities of life when in distress, but every provision is made for rehabilitation work among them in order that they may become self-supporting.

"The money collected and distributed by the Community Fund is expended without favor and without regard for race or creed."

SEP 24 1931

# Sanitary Facilities In Richmond's Negro Hovels So Poor As to Put Premium on Decency and Health

## Evil Effects of Conditions Certain to Be Felt in White Homes.

(Editor's Note—The absence of sanitary plumbing facilities in many of the houses visited by The News Leader's investigators is described in the following article, the fifth in a series of special articles.)

By JOHN J. CORSON, III.

Plumbing facilities found by The News Leader in its investigation of 493 Negro homes in the poorer sections of Richmond are so limited as to be insufficient to maintain even a minimum standard of cleanliness and decency, a circumstance which explains Richmond's high cost of disease prevention, as well as the high incidence of Negro crime and the rapid and costly exodus of Richmond Negro labor to the North.

Two of every three houses in the poorer sections have only a hydrant in the rear yard to supply water for all needs of the family.

In one section of Richmond twelve families depend upon a single hydrant for their common use.

Eight of every nine houses do not have a bathtub.

Only one of every ten houses has lavatory facilities inside the house.

Not more than four blocks from some of Richmond's aristocratic, old Franklin street homes there is a row of fifteen old, two-storied frame houses. Each of these buildings is badly in need of paint. All of them are dilapidated, three of them in such bad repair that they cannot be occupied. Windows are broken in several. The roofs of most of them leak. The basements, from which a majority of the doors and windows have been broken off, are filled with mud.

### In Penitentiary Bottom.

In front of these houses runs Canal street, roughly paved and flanked by narrow, broken-brick sidewalks. In the rear there is an open field, heavily grown with weeds and bushes, and scattered here and there with refuse, which ends abruptly in a huge stone wall. With this wall as a foundation, the state penitentiary sits high above the level of these houses. Physically and spiritually, this monument to crime and



Shown above is the row of old, dilapidated frame houses located in Penitentiary bottom, on Canal street, between Foushee and Adams streets, which is described in the accompanying article. This picture shows the rear of these homes and was taken from a point almost at the foot of the wall about the state penitentiary.

[News Leader photo by Dementi.]

lawlessness casts its shadow over the homes in Penitentiary Bottom.

If the age and physical decay of these houses and the environment of the cell house above them were all that these Negro families had to contend with, their fight for health and decency would be hard enough. But the picture is not complete. Consider the plumbing facilities in these houses, and then consider what life must be like in such hovels!

In the open, refuse-littered lot behind these houses a spring bubbles incessantly. To this natural water source the occupants of several of these houses go daily for the water they drink and with which they bathe. Why? Simply because they have no other means of obtaining it.

### Used by Entire Row.

There is not a kitchen nor a bathroom in any one of this row of houses in Penitentiary Bottom. There

is not a sink, a water spigot, nor a bathtub to be found in any one of these shacks. In the rear of these houses, in yards covered with filth, there are five water hydrants and three aged and rotten wooden shacks covering as many water closets. These sanitary facilities suffice for the occupants of this entire row of houses.

In one of these houses a husband and wife and their four children live.

It is the duty of the two oldest boys in this family to bring the water necessary for cooking and washing

from the spring to this dirty, rotting kitchen. Here this water stands in an assortment of buckets and large cans.

Saturday night or any other night is not "bath night" in this household. All bathing is done over these

cans in the kitchen. Likewise all meals are cooked and eaten in this same room. The only lavatory available for this family stands in

rear of the second house to the east in this row. This lavatory is used by three other families as well.

### Found in Other Sections.

Conditions similar to those obtaining in this row of houses are found in several other sections of Richmond. In Childress Alley, which runs parallel to Main street between 23rd and 24th streets, where six families live in a tenement house, in two rooms apiece, there is a single hydrant in a court in the rear of the building which serves all the members of these six families.

In Gilbert Alley, in the former Jackson Ward, twelve families have a single hydrant for their common use. On Blair street, east of Lombardy street in the west end, the owner of three houses forced his tenants during the last winter to use one water hydrant, rather than repair the hydrants which there actually do exist, but were turned off for more than a year.

Likewise, in several Negro districts where there are a large number of

cheap apartment houses and flats, a single water hydrant at the foot of the steps in the back-yard must serve all the occupants of the dwelling.

As with the water hydrants, so with the lavatory facilities, which, as a rule, are found standing in the rear yard, but in some instances are located on the rear porches, and in one row of houses in South Richmond are located in the front yards. Not infrequently a single lavatory must serve two, three, six and in Gilbert Alley even twelve families. Most of these water closets, exposed to the weather, are in satisfactory shape. At least one of every five, however, is in bad condition and a few are absolutely beyond use.

### Data From 493 Homes.

To visualize this situation better, let us summarize the data for this entire group of 493 homes:

All of these houses, with the exception of seven which depend upon natural springs for their water, are connected with the city water supply. But only 35.5 per cent., or approximately one out of three, have water piped within the house itself.

In 62.9 per cent. of these houses, the water supply consists solely of a hydrant standing in the backyard, and in a few cases in one's neighbor's backyard. For a few of these homes there is no water supply whatsoever.

When water is piped into the house it is usually connected with a kitchen sink. Consequently about every third house in these poorer Negro residential districts claims a sink in which all personal bathing and laundering must be done and the meals prepared.

In one house visited by The News Leader's investigator which was equipped with a bathtub, the tub was disconnected and turned upside down. Not infrequently it is said that the occupants of these houses have no use in their life for a bathtub, and use it for sundry purposes, ranging from a bed to a storage place for coal. It is conceivable that this might be the case. Many are uneducated and unintelligent souls. But since in only one of every nine houses is a bathtub found, not many bathtubs are used for such purposes.

### Entire City Is Afflicted.

Sparse and unsatisfactory plumbing conveniences such as those found in these Negro residential areas are obviously detrimental to the entire city. Common water hydrants and common lavatories promote the communication of disease. Water hydrants surrendered by filth provide excellent sites for the breeding of germs.

In part these factors serve to explain why the number of Negro deaths from typhoid fever, tuberculosis and venereal diseases in Richmond is approximately twice as great as the number of white deaths from these same causes.

But to reason further—in the yards of these Negro homes the clothes of many white families are hung to dry after having been washed in these houses. From such homes several thousand Negro girls go forth each morning to work in the homes of white employers, to cook in the kitchens of white families, and to care intimately for the little children in these homes. Cer-

tainly with respect to a city's health the axiom, "a chain can be no stronger than its weakest link" applies exactly.

# SANITARY FACILITIES

## WATER SUPPLY AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES OF 493 NEGRO HOMES INVESTIGATED

	Owners.	Tenants.	Total.
Number of houses investigated.....	69	424	493
Percentage of houses obtaining water from:			
City ----- (a)	100.00	98.11	98.38
Spring -----		1.54	1.42
Percentage of houses having water piped to:			
House -----	66.67	30.42	35.50
Yard hydrant -----	33.33	67.69	62.88
	100.00	100.00	(b) 100.00
Percentage of houses having a			
Bathtub -----	23.25	9.43	11.35
Sink -----	66.67	29.01	34.28
Percentage of houses having toilet, water closet:			
Inside house -----	18.84	10.38	11.56
Outside house -----	81.16	89.62	88.44
	100.00	100.00	100.00
Condition of toilet facilities expressed in percentages:			
Good -----	81.16	41.04	46.65
Fair -----	15.74	34.43	31.84
Bad -----	3.10	24.53	21.51
	100.00	100.00	100.00

- (a) One house occupied by a tenant had no water from any source.  
 (b) Those houses depending upon spring had water piped neither to house nor yard hydrant.

## Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1931.

Newport News, Va. Press  
Thursday, January 8, 1931.

### White Citizens Give \$107.50 Toward Fund For Negro Minister

The relief fund for Rev. James H. Smith, aged negro minister, passed the \$100 mark yesterday with contributions from George T. Hardy, \$2.00, James and William Scrimgeour, \$5.00, and R. T. Peirce, \$1. The total contribution made by white citizens toward the relief fund was given at \$107.50.

A considerable sum has also been raised for the relief of the negro minister by the negro population of the city. Their names will be made public following the close of the campaign next Sunday, according to those in charge of the fund.

## DR. POWELL DEFENDED BY A VIRGINIA MAN

*Comier 2-7-31*  
*P. H. Mangum*  
Says Evangelistic Ministers More Insulting, Uncivil, Disrespectful, Quarrelsome Than Any Group of Men Ever Assembled In a Church.

By THEODORE JONES

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 5—The immediate cause for the present focusing of public attention on the Negro clergy of the country is twofold. First was a scathing attack made on Negro preachers, fraternal and other leaders in a newspaper article by Miss Nannie H. Burroughs because of their indifference to the needs of the unemployed and the suffering of their own people. The other was the answer to this criticism by Dr. A. Clayton Powell, pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church, in the form of a pledge of \$1000 of his salary to open a free food kitchen, and an additional \$1500 pledged by his church for the same purpose. It was an emergency measure to take care of an emergency. In other words, it was hasty and immediate relief, such as the unusual situation demanded. It was noble in them to do so. It also was a form of charity which is lamentably rare among Negro divines.

Aside from many open letters and veiled criticisms in the public press relative to this matter, there has been a general tendency by a large per cent of the Negro clergy to belittle, minimize and misrepresent this outstanding example set by Dr. Powell and his church. Preachers

Others insist that the old, antiquated and worn-out system of charity that has characterized the Negro church since its foundation was ample in the present emergency. Not a single word of commendation from the great pulpit leaders! They are mum, while the small fry, instead of preaching Dr. Powell up, are preaching him down. An impairment of the value of practical Christianity! One is unable to see how Dr. Powell's generosity can admit of debate, or how there can be two opinions relative thereto. In this connection it may be noted that there is little agreement among colored ministers. Any plan laid before them involving community betterment or social up-

lift is adopted, if at all, only in an atmosphere of bitterness and opposition. Most any business or professional man, social worker or layman having occasion to appear before a Negro ministers' conference will tell you that, with few exceptions, preachers, and especially that type called evangelists, are more insulting, uncivil, disrespectful and quarrelsome than any group of men that ever assembled in a church. And the way they are bawling out Dr. Powell is proof of their reputation.

It may be further noted that there are many highly paid Negro ministers in every large community for whom the poor build new homes and furnish them, for whom day laborers buy high-grade automobiles, whose families live and dress in the most extravagant style from money donated out of the scanty earnings of cooks and washerwomen. Any preacher who encourages this policy, and any church which lavishes gifts of money or costly presents on its pastor, while the poor shiver in the cold or die in poverty and want, will not deserve or command the uppermost seats in heaven.

For it is written "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not these things which are needful to the body: what doth it profit? But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

Added to the force of the above scripture is the suggestion of Dr. Powell that 30,000 Negro preachers give part of their salaries to charity or stop preaching and close their churches. But a greater than Dr. A. Clayton Powell has said: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing."

Richmond, Va. News-Leader  
Monday, March 23, 1931

### Talk Over Plans Of Housing Survey

Preliminary plans for a survey of the Negro housing situation in Richmond are being made today by a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The committee consists of M. E. Marcuse, John T. Wilson, John Stewart Bryan, John J. Corson, John J. Wicker, Jr., William B. Thalheimer, C. P. Hasbrook, Waller Holladay, Morton G. Thalheimer and W. C. Carpenter.

The committee has before it for consideration data concerning Chicago housing of Negroes, which was

Virginia.

secured by Mason Manghum, managing director of the chamber, as a basis for starting the Richmond survey. It is expected that Mr. Manghum will divide his committee into groups to study specific phases of the situation.

Richmond, Va. News-Leader  
Monday, March 23, 1931

### BRINGS WORKING DATA ON NEGRO HOUSING PROBLEM

Richmond C. of C. Official  
Returns With Informa-  
tion From Chicago.

Mason Manghum, managing director of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, was back today after a trip to Chicago to obtain working data for use of the committee to study the Negro housing problem here.

The committee to make the study has been named by William H. Schwarzschild, president of the chamber, but will not be announced until all the acceptances have been received. In selecting the committee Mr. Schwarzschild has initiated what he believes to be one of the most important movements for the benefit of the city.

A thorough study of the Negro question here will be undertaken. Mr. Schwarzschild points out that one-third of the city's population is Negro, and that any improvement in the living standards of this large group will react to the good of the entire city. The experience of other cities in dealing with the problem will be used as a basis for the study here.

When the committee has arrived at something definite, the chamber's municipal committee will be asked to put the matter before the city council for action on the recommendations which will include street improvements, schools, parks and many other matters leading to the betterment of living conditions.

Mr. Manghum received considerable information while in Chicago, where the municipal authorities gave him assistance in gathering material for use of the committee. He went to Chicago direct from Akron, where he inspected the Goodyear plant on Thursday along with other municipal and chamber officials.

The visit to Akron was highly satisfactory, Mr. Manghum reported. Richmond's fine showing in comparison with other cities in weather conditions is expected to play a big part in the selection of the trans-oceanic air base.

Richmond, Va. News-Leader  
Tuesday, March 24, 1931

### WILL STUDY NEGRO HOUSING PROBLEM

Mason Manghum Will Visit  
Chicago to Obtain Need-  
ed Information.

Study of the Negro housing problem, one of the four major objectives of William H. Schwarzschild, president of the Chamber of Commerce, will be launched at once, the first step being a visit to Chicago by Mason Manghum, managing director of the chamber, to get first-hand information on the subject there. Mr. Manghum will spend Thursday in Chicago.

Mr. Schwarzschild is now working on the personnel of a committee to handle the housing question. With Mr. Manghum's material as the basis, a plan for improving living conditions among the Negroes will be worked out.

"We mean to better those sections of the cities where Negroes are now living by improving the streets, providing recreational and vocational facilities, modernizing the property and by what other means may develop," Mr. Schwarzschild stated.

When the chamber completes its study, the findings will be made public and recommendations to the city council for action will be made.

Mr. Manghum will go to Chicago from Akron after visiting the Goodyear works tomorrow.

### NEGRO CONDITIONS IN CITY DISCUSSED

Representative Members of  
Race Confer With Mayor  
and Others.

Living conditions among Richmond Negroes and what can be done to improve them were discussed at a conference held in Mayor Bright's office yesterday afternoon at which the mayor, city officials, representatives of the chamber of commerce and representative Negroes were present.

The city's plans for improving

streets and other features of the Negro residential sections and its work in promoting health and sanitation among the Negroes were outlined by Colonel R. Keith Compton, director of public works and Dr. W. Brownley Foster, director of public welfare. The Negroes were asked to appoint a committee to act in conjunction with city and chamber of commerce officials in the improvement of conditions.

Attending the conference were Mayor Bright, Directors W. Brownley Foster and R. Keith Compton, William B. Thalhimer, chairman of the chamber of commerce committee on municipal affairs and a sub-committee on the improvement of living conditions among the Negroes; W. E. Marcuse, E. B. Sydnor, R. P. Saunders, representing the chamber of commerce; John J. Corson, III, Wiley Hall, secretary of the Richmond Urban League and Dr. Gordon B. Hancock, Virginia Union University.

## WELFARE GOAL FOR NEGROES OUTLINED AT RICHMOND

*Nashville Globe 5-29-31*  
Richmond, Va.—(CNS)—A parallel civilization for Negroes, with opportunities equal to those offered white people, yet with no mixture of races, is the goal of the Negro Welfare Council of the Council of Social Agencies, according to Charles W. Sheerin, chairman of the council, speaking before the Council of Churchwomen at their final meeting Friday in the community fund conference room.

Lack of education and other privileges denied Negroes sometimes lead them to dishonesty, immorality and other vices which in turn react on the entire population of the city, Dr. Sheerin said.

The high death rate from tuberculosis and other diseases arising from unsanitary conditions, bad housing, and lack of medical care cause the death rate for the city to appear high, he said.

## NEGRO ORGANIZATION SOCIETY MAKES INTERESTING SURVEY

By JAMES ALVIN BANKS

This article is the results of a careful survey made by the Negro Organization Society in ten counties in Southwest Virginia. This survey was made as a forerunner of an extensive educational campaign planned for the section. Speeches were made and a thorough study of educational conditions, health, and living conditions and the general attitude of the people of each community to a bigger and better educational program for the coming year.

*Nashville Globe 5-29-31*  
Our first study was made at a little town eighty-five miles from Richmond called Charlotte Court House. This town has a very small population and is the headquarters of the Grand United Order of Moses which furnishes a wonderful background for the educational work being done there. This organization was founded by Rev. J. Murry Jeffries in 1904 who has done much constructive work for his people in that community and throughout the state. The organization's membership is now 20,000 with branches in all parts of the country.

This fraternal organization constructed an auditorium in 1929 designed by Rev. Jeffries. This building was built entirely by colored people from the cornerstone to the topmost brick in the chimney at an estimated cost of \$45,000. In August of every year the organization holds its annual convention here and from five to eight thousand people attend coming from all parts of the country. We were told that one lady had made seven trips from California to attend the convention.

A little distance from this structure is the Charlotte Training School of which Sam P. Morton is the principal. This school has five teachers, seven grades and an enrollment of 190 pupils. Mr. Morton has done some very constructive work here. He has received the wholehearted support of the patrons in and around Charlotte Court House. One year ago this school had no modern equipment whatever. It now has a well equipped laboratory, a well planned library, and a manual training department with all modern equipment. This little town proves to us the absolute necessity of cooperation between teachers and patrons in the establishing of bigger and better schools. After visiting the classrooms, Rev. Wm. R. Johnson spoke to the student body in a joint assembly. In the auditorium of the Grand United Order of Moses the Training School holds its commencement exercises.

### At Brookneal

At 2:30 we left for a meeting at Brookneal in Campbell County. Here we found a well-kept school of 3 rooms. This school has an enrollment of 66 pupils and 2 teachers. Rev. Johnson, who is field secretary of the Negro Organization Society, addressed thirty patrons here from all parts of the county who had met for the purpose of organizing a county-wide league. The group was very much inspired with the message brought by Rev. Johnson and proceeded at once to organize and elect officers.

After leaving Brookneal we stopped over in Rustburg for a short period to visit the Training School. This school consists of three buildings. A girls'

dermatory, the original class room building, and a new building with two class rooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of three hundred. This county is under the supervision of Miss Lottie L. Herndon, who has held the position for eight years. Miss Herndon has done some wonderful work. She has added a Rosenwald School each year of her work in this county. They have now a total of sixteen Rosenwald Schools.

Miss Herndon has been able to secure the cooperation of the patrons in her work and together they have made rapid strides in the educational program of this county. Miss Herndon's accomplishments have not been without the ever-appearing obstacles that come in the path of constructive work among our people. She has exhibited an unusual quality of will power and perseverance.

### Improvement Needed

Never at any period in the world's history was perseverance more necessary than it is in the improvement of schools in our rural communities.

Miss Herndon's inflexible will backed up by untiring effort which is the basis of all perseverance is a feature that should not be overlooked in this battle for better schools, better teachers, and better equipment. Rev. Johnson in his remarks stressed the importance of caring for the health of the children and stated that it would not be long hence before the Negro Organization Society, by the help of other state organizations, will have placed at the disposal of every Negro rural school a Negro public health nurse.

### A New Front For The Urban League

*Nashville Globe 5-29-31*  
THE National Urban League was quite busy last winter keeping watch on the trends of unemployment as they affected our group. It was found, after surveying certain cities in some localities, that the ratio of unemployment was as high as 25 per cent in some cases and that there was a tendency at work to displace our workers with whites wherever possible.

In its efforts to impress the administration in Washington with this situation with a view to some remedial action, the League permitted its findings to be circulated all over the country through the Department of Labor. That is not the type of picture which the country should have received because it emphasized the dark side of the picture to the exclusion of the bright phase. We are not objecting to facing the facts, but an overdrawn picture of the depressing phases of our economic life with the sound phases left out of the equation will do more harm than good.

It serves no useful purpose for the country to get the impression that our people are poverty-stricken, that their insurance policies are lapsing, that our workers are losing their buying power and that our financial structure is tottering. In this connection it might be well for the Urban League to take a lesson from the railway executives. Last winter they talked so much about reduced earnings from various forms of compe-

tition and mounting fixed charges that investors concluded that the time had come to withdraw their funds from railway securities, so these stocks began to tumble. The same thing will happen to our business men who depend upon the race's buying power for their appeal, unless something is said about the great majority of our group who have not lost their jobs, who have not been replaced by whites, and who are in a position to buy just as much now as they ever did.

Now that the Urban League has the facts upon which to base some definite action, let it proceed with a campaign to remedy that part of the situation which needs it.

WASHINGTON, D. C.  
UNITED STATES DAILY

JUL 11 1931

# West Virginia's Efforts to Aid Members of Negro Race

## Governor of State Shows How Educational And Welfare Activities Have Contributed to Their Development and Happiness

By WILLIAM G. CONLEY  
Governor, State of West Virginia

THE position of the Negro in West Virginia has always been definitely marked. His rights, his privileges, his duties, and his responsibilities as a citizen of this State were clearly set forth in the first draft of the Constitution of West Virginia, and have been carried forward through the years in that document without change.

Nowhere in West Virginia is the Negro disfranchised either by law or by custom. On the contrary, he occupies positions of trust, honor, and profit in State and local government.

Among the prominent State positions which are held by Negroes are those of State Librarian, State Supervisor of Negro Schools, Advisory Council to the State Board of Education, composed of three members, one ex-officio, and Director of the Bureau of Negro Welfare and Statistics.

Negro deputy sheriffs, justices, constables, city councilmen, and postmasters are found in many places throughout the State, while Negroes serve on the executive committees and participate in the councils of the dominant political party. For many years the Legislature has numbered among its membership from one to three Negroes.

West Virginia has always made generous and efficient provision for the education of colored youth. Not only are free grade schools established where they are needed in the several counties, but the State maintains two institutions for higher learning and partly supports a third institution.

In the 10 years from 1919 to 1929 there was appropriated for these institutions \$3,587,192.46, of which amount \$1,610,400 was paid to competent colored teachers as salaries. In order that the Negro may have the advantage of an education along professional lines, the State by appropriation has made it possible for a certain number of colored citizens to attend some university outside of Virginia

each year. Educational efforts among the Negroes have been singularly successful. In 1920 there were 15,133 Negroes enrolled in the schools, this number representing 57.4 per cent of all Negroes between the age of five and 20 years. In 1930 the number of Negroes enrolled was 23,512, or 66 per cent of the Negroes between five and 20 years old, an increase for the decade of 8.6 per cent. During this same period illiteracy was decreased from 15.3 per cent to 11.3 per cent.

The State maintains seven eleemosynary institutions for the Negro and each institution is entirely manned by members of the Negro race. These institutions include the West Virginia School for Colored Deaf and Blind, the State Industrial School for Colored Boys, the State Industrial Home for Colored Girls, the West Virginia Colored Tuberculosis Sanitarium, the State Hospital for the Colored Insane, the West Virginia Home for Aged and Infirm Negro Men and Women, and the State Colored Orphans' Home. Appropriations for their support have averaged more than \$300,000 a year for the last 10 years.

The Negro in West Virginia has his own place in industry. The two main industries in which he is engaged are agriculture, which provides employment for 3,815, and coal mining, which provides employment for 23,990, which number is about 65 per cent of all colored males in the State over 16 years of age. The Negro constitutes about 22 per cent of the total number of miners in West Virginia. In addition to such bulk employment, Negroes are found in almost every other type of industry, as well as in the management of their own business enterprises.

Sixty-one Negro doctors render first class medical and surgical service in 22 of our counties, and Negroes operate five hospitals. There are 28 dentists in 10 counties, and 26 lawyers in eight counties. Negro nurses, teachers, druggists, bankers, and other pro-

professionals are found in nearly every part of the State.

Negro fraternal organizations, comprised chiefly of Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Masons, and Elks maintain 919 local units, with a membership of 28,122. The property which this membership represents totals \$851,081, distributed as follows: Realty, \$487,665; personal, \$57,500; cash, \$305,916. These fraternal organizations are doing a wonderful benevolent and protective work, assisting their members in times of need, and lending their full force and support to movements designed to improve civic conditions.

The Negroes of West Virginia are home-loving, law-abiding, church-supporting citizens. According to figures furnished me by the Bureau of Negro Welfare and Statistics at Charleston, West Virginia has 428 Negro churches, of which 326 are Baptist. Of the State's 277 Negro preachers, 158 are Baptists. The total membership of all churches is 21,336, and of this number 15,536 are Baptists. The Baptists have also 326 Sunday Schools, with a total enrollment of more than 12,000, and the value of the Baptist church property is estimated at \$689,491.

Because of these and many other favorable conditions, there has been no unusual migration of Negroes from West Virginia to other States. On the contrary, many of the colored citizens of other States have been attracted to West Virginia because of the superior educational advantages, excellent eleemosynary institutions, political equality, and economic opportunity offered to and enjoyed by the Negro race in this State.

Negroes today constitute 6.6 per cent of the total population of West Virginia, and number 114,893, a gain in the last 10 years of more than 33 per cent. The Negro in West Virginia has shown a decided liking for life in the rural sections, and the 1930 census classifies 31,224 Negroes as urban, and 83,669 as rural. They own 328 farms and operate a total of 491, comprising in the aggregate 28,085 acres.

From this brief view of the Negro's position in West Virginia, one will perceive, I am sure, that this State has been and still is leading in the work of elevating standards for all of its citizens and making a better place for them in which to live.

The opportunities which the members of the Negro race have in West Virginia today are made possible by our great Republic, founded upon and sustained by the Constitution of the United States, the guarantees of which are included in the Constitution of West Virginia. That Constitution is the material result of the struggle of humanity to be free in act and thought. It embodies those principles of freedom and liberty which for ages had been working themselves into the mind of man. It contains within itself the authority to exist and the adaptability to meet the ever-changing needs of a country that is developing and growing rapidly in population, wealth, intelligence, and spirituality.

It is shot through with the spirit that sus-

tained American men at arms in the Revolutionary War and in all of the wars since that time which we have fought for the protection of our interests and the safeguarding of our inalienable, fundamental rights.

That Constitution is the unshakeable foundation on which are built justice, domestic tranquillity, common defense, the promotion of general welfare, and the securing of the blessings of liberty. It is at once the essence and inspiration of our national greatness and the safeguard of that greatness. It is a living force in our every-day lives.

Inasmuch as all persons owe their present condition, their present privileges, opportunities, and achievements to the Constitution, they should be careful to safeguard and protect from every vicious assault that divinely inspired instrument. Failure on the part of anyone to abide by the principles set forth in one portion of the Constitution encourages someone else to refuse to abide by the principles set forth in another part.

The welfare of the Nation depends upon the economic, educational, and spiritual advancement not alone of the Negro but of all others upon whom has been conferred by birth or law the right of citizenship in the United States. All persons should strive to have a clearer and nobler conception of American citizenship and a keener appreciation of its obligations and great privileges, to the end that we may have one country, one Constitution, one destiny.

**RICHMOND, VA.**  
**NEWS-LEADER**

**SEP 29 1931**

# Shiftless Negro Tenants and Avaricious Owners Combine to Make Living Conditions Almost Tragic

**Each of Two Parties Concerned Must Do Share to Get Improvement.**

(Editor's Note. — Rentals charged for the cheap, flimsy and dilapidated houses in the poorer residential sections of Richmond are described by The News Leader's investigator in the ninth of a series of special articles.)

**By JOHN J. CORSON III.**

Higher rentals are necessarily charged for houses occupied by Negroes in Richmond than for similar houses occupied by white persons. The News Leader study of housing conditions in the poorer sections of Richmond disclosed.

Four factors justify and explain this difference.

First, agents must be employed to collect rents from Negro tenants, weekly or monthly.

Second, houses are usually rented to Negro families by the week or by the month, rather than by the year.

Third, Negro tenants move more frequently than white tenants, and, consequently, the owners of Negro property lost money while they hunt for new tenants.

Finally, cheaply constructed, many Negro homes suffer rapid depreciation.

Ranging from 3.50 per month for a three-room flat in a frame house on West Twenty-second street, in South Richmond, to \$35 per month for a three-story brick house on East Leigh street near Ninth street, the average monthly rental for the quarters occupied by 424 families interviewed by The News Leader was \$8.77.

## Rental Prices Vary.

Two-story frame houses, such as predominate in these poorer sections, are rented for from \$6 to \$20 per month. In Fulton and South Richmond, houses can be rented more cheaply than in Jackson ward or the West End. Three- and four-room apartments in relatively new brick structures on Axtell street and on Allen street are rented for from \$8 to \$18. One-story frame shacks in Fulton and on Pegg street in the Shockoe valley are rented for from \$3.50 to \$6.

Owners of Negro residential property are likened by one prominent Richmond realtor to the "loan sharks



Shown above is a row of houses located on South Allen avenue in the West End, which is typical of the houses in the poorer sections of that district of the city [News Leader photo by Dementi.]

who force poor people to pay interest rates of 42 per cent." For years it has been a common belief in Richmond that such property can be bought cheaply, taxes cost little, nothing is spent on repairs, and a relatively small rental collected regularly will provide a munificent return.

Richmond realtors who handle this class of property, however, insist that after all the costs incurred by owners of these houses are met the net return on their investment is no greater than the return on other property of a similar character. The poverty of the average Negro tenant, his readiness to move from house to house, and the rapid depreciation of these cheaply constructed dwellings, they claim, limits materially the net return on money invested in such houses.

## Vacant Houses Often Sacked.

Finally, all property in the poorer residential sections of Richmond is subject to depredation which adds

materially to the cost of owning such houses. Universally, real estate men testify that vacant houses are subject to the devastating ravages of thieves who sack them for everything of value. In the winter loose boards are torn from the walls and floors to be used for firewood. Lead or brass pipe in the plumbing fixtures of a vacant house in these poorer sections is torn out and sold. Mischievous children break the windows.

Decent living conditions will obtain in these poorer Negro residential districts only if the tenants who live in these houses, as well as the owners of the property, each play their part in caring for property and in maintaining clean, wholesome conditions.

For example, on the questionnaire filled in for one of the worst of the 493 houses visited by The News Leader, the following short, terse and cryptic sentences were appended by Miss Ethel Harris, who gathered this information.

"Plaster on kitchen walls has fallen. Shed in back yard is about to fall. Tenant obtains water wherever she can. Most of garbage is burned in kitchen stove because rats and mice infest this house. Water stands in the cellar. Tenant claims that no repairs have been made in past four years. Mrs. Blank, the owner of this row of houses collects the rent each Saturday rather than monthly."

In human fashion these comments adequately describe the tragic conditions under which one Negro family lives. And as poignantly they ascribe the blame for these conditions to both a shiftless and prideless tenant and an avaricious owner, more concerned with the collection of rent than the decent maintenance of this dwelling.

Many tenants contribute to the disrepair of the houses in which they live by their failure to aid in "keeping up the property." Major repairs are, of course, the obligation of the owner of the property. The neglect of little repairs, however, which can be attended to only by the occupant

of the house, and the failure to keep the dwelling decently clean adds materially to the depreciation of these buildings.

Rear yards littered with tin cans, and vacant lots and alleys covered with trash and rubbish by the occupants of these houses add to the filth and squalor in these poorer sections.

On the other hand, the white owners—nine out of ten houses in these poorer sections are owned by white persons—are to blame for most of the dilapidation and the general absence of decent plumbing facilities in these houses. In the worst of these homes there was no evidence of any effort on the part of the owners of these houses to keep them in such condition that they would protect their inhabitants from the rain and wind.

The lack of water and plumbing within these houses is often laid to the failure of Negro families to appreciate and demand clean, substantial homes with modern conveniences. Instances where dilapidated frame houses have been preferred by Negroes to modern, brick flats, of bathtubs used to store coal and wood and of homes equipped with electricity where it is not used, are cited to illustrate the failure of some Negroes to appreciate decent living conditions.

## Vase Difference in Negroes.

Too frequently the mistake is made of considering all Negroes as one class, and generalizing on this basis. There are Negroes and Negroes. Among them are the intelligent and thrifty as well as the ignorant and shiftless. It is only the latter irresponsible type who are content to live in dilapidated, dirty shacks without the plumbing facilities essential for human living.

But can the average Negro family in Richmond pay for decent quarters? Is it possible to build a small, substantial house equipped with water, plumbing and electricity cheaply enough to permit its being rented for what the average Negro family in Richmond can pay?

The ownership of property occupied by Negro tenants must, of necessity, be profitable. If the average Negro family in Richmond can not earn an income sufficiently large to enable it to pay a rent which will provide the owner of a small, decently equipped home with a fair return on his investment then the blame for the housing conditions in the poorest sections of this city must be placed in large part on others than the owners and tenants in these houses. Additional data gathered by the News Leader which will provide an answer to this question will be published tomorrow.

SEP 30 1931

# Incomes of Many Negroes So Small They Can Eke Out Only Barest Living

Better Homes in More Decent Sections Can Come Only With Change.

(Editor's Note—Enslaving poverty forces many families to live amid conditions unfit for human beings. The incomes of the families visited by The News Leader's special investigator in the poorer residential section of this city are analyzed in the tenth of a series of special articles.)

By JOHN J. CORSON, III.

Approximately four hundred Negro families interviewed by The News Leader in its study of housing conditions in the poorest sections of Richmond have incomes so small that they can afford only the bare necessities of life—food, clothing, and shelter—and these of the crudest and cheapest sort. Until these families can earn better incomes they cannot hope to live in better houses or more decent sections.

Four of every ten families in the sections, containing an average of 4 persons per family, had incomes of less than \$10 a week.

Six of every ten families had incomes of less than \$15 per week.

The average weekly income for all families interviewed was \$12.70 per week.

Unmistakable signs of poverty were encountered on each successive day as The News Leader's investigators work their way from house to house in the several poorer sections of Richmond. In one house the water is turned off, because "we just don't have any money to pay those city hall folks." In several of the better equipped homes the electric light are not used because of the same reason—"we just don't have any money to pay the bills."

## A Typical Family.

Typical of the families living in these poorer sections of Richmond are the Harrises. This family consists of the father and mother, both about thirty-five years of age, and two children eleven and twelve years, respectively, lives in three rooms on the second floor of a brick house on an alley in the former Jackson ward section. This unpaved, narrow little alley proudly claims the name of Jesse street.

"It's pretty hard to get along, even when my husband's working. It's extra tough when he can't find nuthin' to do," the mother of this family said. The father, his wife says, is "not much of a family man,"

and for five years has been unable to find work save an occasional day's whitewashing or plastering.

The total income of this family of four amount to \$7.50 a week, which the mother obtains working by the day in a number of different homes. Out of this sum a month rent of ten dollars is paid, insurance payments of 73 cents a week are met, food must be bought and clothing, if there is anything left. When the husband earns a dollar for a day's work the family is well off indeed.

Clothing is not a serious problem. Necessity demands that it should not be, for first this family must eat and this takes at least \$4 a week. Clothes must be bought for the children unless donated by one of the white families for which the mother works. For the parents, clothes must last. The father still wears the second-hand suit he bought for \$8.50 two years ago after a week's steady work and the mother makes her dresses from remnants obtained whenever she has the money.

## Simplest Kind of Food.

Potatoes make up the most important item of this family's menu which includes bread, a few other vegetables, occasionally some scraps of meat, but never an egg or any milk. Only once a day can it be said that a meal is served in this home. This is supper.

Mary Belle Harris arrives home from work about five-thirty, and then cooks for the children whatever food there is to be had. At times the husband is also present, but often not. In the morning the mother leaves early obtaining breakfast at the home in which she works that day. The children are left to make their breakfast from the scraps of the previous night's meal and then hustle off to school with a nickel—if their mother has it to give them—with which to buy lunch for the two of them.

Recreation for this mother must come from her work. Only three nights a week is she free, and then the home and the children's clothes must be looked after. The movies, boat excursions and other Negro amusements are financially out of the question. All social life is confined to that found at the church on Sunday, and an occasional visit with the neighbors on Sunday nights. Years ago when the father was working the whole family spent a never-to-be-forgotten day on an excursion boat.

Despite the hardships which she fights this mother is not discouraged, but happy and ambitious. Four nights a week she attends the Armstrong high school and studies "long division and sich thing." A twenty-five cent a week Christmas saving fund was attempted this year, but the pressure of bare necessities forced its abandonment. Even now a pair of one boy's shoes are held at the cobbler's for a dollar ransom.

## NEGRO HOUSING STUDY

### AVERAGE INCOMES OF 393 NEGRO FAMILIES INVESTIGATED (a)

Total Income and Sources From Which Income Is Derived.	Owners.	Tenants.	Total.
Number of families investigated	50	343	393
Total family income	\$18.18	11.90	\$12.70
Father's earnings	9.76	6.87	7.24
Mother's earnings	2.71	2.90	2.87
Children's earnings	4.85	1.59	2.01
From lodgers and boarders	.86	.54	.58

(a) Reliable data as to the income of the Negro families studied could only be gotten for 393 of the total of 493 families studied. In some instances these families refused to divulge any information concerning their incomes, in others the persons interviewed did not know what other members of the family earned.

Seem Resigned to Fate. Probably six out of ten families living in these miserable little shacks in the poorer sections of this city are contented with their lot or at least resigned to their fate. Many other families are not.

Time and time again as The News Leader's representatives toured through these sections, they were told, just as Mary Belle Harris told them, that, "This place ain't fit for to live in. But I just can't pay the rent for a better place. When my husband finds some steady work to do, then we are going to move out on to Leigh street near the church."

To pay the monthly rent, and as well to meet all other expenses of living, the typical Negro family interviewed by The News Leader has a better income than the Harris family. Of course, the incomes of those families for which these data were obtained (exactly 100 persons interviewed either refused or were unable to tell accurately what the total family income is) covered a wide range. One family has an income of \$100 per week. Several have incomes of as much as \$30 a week. Four of every ten families have less than \$10 a week. The average weekly income for this entire group of families is \$12.70 per week.

Although the father as a rule contributes the larger part of this family income, many of these families, especially in periods of unemployment, are dependent upon the earnings of the mother and the children, and on the sums paid for room and board by lodgers in the home to eke out a bare living. Even then, with an average family income of only \$12.70, the margin above actual want is very narrow.

## Many Have Wages Cut.

Any record of incomes at this time is, of course, depressed by existing business conditions. In at least one-third of the homes visited there were one or more wage-earners out of work, or working on only a part-time schedule. Some of the more fortunate who still hold jobs are working for wages that have been cut during the past year.

As the accompanying table discloses those few families in these poorer sections of Richmond who own their homes have incomes averaging \$18.18 per week, as compared with an average weekly family income of \$11.90 for the much larger number of Negro families who rent their homes. How bare a living a weekly income of \$11.90 will provide for a family of four persons is grimly demonstrated by apportioning it for food, clothing, fuel, etc., on the basis of proportions found to be typical of the poorest families in Richmond by the United States bureau of labor statistics.

In short, after subtracting from this total income of \$11.90 the average rental these families pay, \$8.77 per month, there is left:

14 cents per day for food for each member of the family,

\$19.92 per year to clothe each member of the family.

\$2.81 per month to pay for all light and fuel,

\$29.78 per year to pay for all necessary housefurnishings, and, 7 cents a day per person for recreation, doctor's bills, insurance and all other expenses.

## Deprived of Decent Chance.

Grim, unrelenting poverty enslaves and imprisons many of these Negro families in an existence which is inhuman. Forced to live in dilapidated, dirty shacks because they cannot afford to go elsewhere, with barely enough money for food, decent clothing and fuel and with no possibility of their accumulating any funds with which to face sickness, death or unemployment, many Negro families in Richmond are deprived of every attribute of a decent living either now or in the future.

Is it any wonder, then—

That the average life of a Negro in this city is fifteen years shorter than that of the average white person?

That the city must pay thousands of dollars of the public tax moneys each year to take care of these underprivileged people in the public clinics, hospital and tubercular pavilion?

That the community fund must devote thousands of its public contributed dollars to the support of destitute Negro families?

That the city jail and state penitentiary are inhabited by a larger relative proportion of the members of this race?

In the jail, at least, one has warmth, two meals a day and a fairly clean place in which to sleep.

**RICHMOND, VA.**  
**NEWS-LEADER**

SEP 25 1931

# Unpaved Streets and Rubbish - Littered Yards Add to Bad Conditions in Poor Negro Sections

**Minimum of Sanitary Conveniences Found in Dilapidated Homes.**

[Editor's Note: Unpaved streets and rubbish-littered yards combine with the aged and dilapidated shacks in several of Richmond's poorer residential areas to make living conditions of the worst sort. In the following article by The News Leader's investigator the nature of these factors is described.]

By JOHN J. CORSON, III.

Unpaved and poorly lighted streets, rubbish-littered yards, alleys and vacant lots, and a few houses with no city water or sewers add to the disreputable appearance and unhealthy nature of the poorest Negro residential sections in Richmond. The News Leader study of housing conditions disclosed.

Seven of every ten houses in these slum areas visited by The News Leader face on unpaved streets, many of which are alternately muddy and dusty.

One-half of these houses face on streets without curbs, gutters or sidewalks.

At least seventy-five Negro families are dependent upon insanitary dry closets, which menace the lives of these people and all with whom they come in contact.

Vacant lots, rear yards and alleys in these poorer sections are covered with an accumulation of trash and rubbish, despite the efforts of the municipal government to keep them clean.

**Owners and Innates to Blame.**

Bad housing conditions mean more than leaking roofs, sagging walls, rotting floors, broken windows, small dark rooms, musty odors, and a minimum of sanitary conveniences. The owners and those who live in dilapidated houses of this character are themselves to blame for the insanitary condition and disrepair of their houses.

But where houses of this sort are found, frequently muddy streets without curbs, gutters or sidewalks, with little or no street lighting, and with an accumulation of trash, are likewise found. To the extent that these facilities, garbage collection, fire protection, police surveillance and like services are lacking, the municipal



Littered with every conceivable sort of trash and rubbish the yards pictured above are typical of conditions found in several of the poorer residential sections in this city. The yards pictured above were found in the hollow about Thirteenth and East Leigh streets. [News Leader photo by Dementi.]

The municipal government of Richmond is to blame for the filth, squalor and disrepair in these cesspool-like regions. Forty-five per cent. of the streets in the Negro districts of this city are improved, as compared with 63 per cent. of the streets in the white sections, according to a statement of the municipal department of public works made on July 16th of this year.

**159 Unimproved Mileage.**

Only 159 miles of streets within this city's borders will be without curbs and gutters at the conclusion of Richmond's street building program for 1931. Twenty-six per cent. of this unimproved mileage will be in the Negro residential districts, and 74 per cent. in the white sections. Richmond's Negro population represents 29 per cent. of its total

population. Much of the street improvement in the Negro sections is old, and was originally made for the whites from whom these sections were inherited. Although these older streets are better than those unpaved streets in Fulton, South Richmond, the West End, and along the north bank of Bacon Quarter's Branch, still many blocks provide a rough surface that handicaps traffic and is difficult to keep clean.

In 1927, Charles L. Knight, of the University of Virginia, in his monograph entitled, "Negro Housing in Certain Virginia Cities" wrote that, "In Fulton, especially, the condition of the streets is such as would not be tolerated in a white community." Since that time numerous improvements have been made in these sections of Richmond where Negroes

**Negroes Unable to Pay.**

Old, broken brick sidewalks—or no sidewalks at all—flank the unpaved and roughly paved streets in many Negro sections of Richmond. Negro owners are frequently unable to pay the necessary costs for sidewalks which must be met in part by the owners of property in front of which the city builds a sidewalk.

Disease-breeding dry closets which constitute a menace to the life of every resident of Richmond and annually swell the city's public health

bill, will be reduced in number to only 82 by the end of this year. Only 111 of the more than 30,000 dwellings within this city's borders did not have access to city water and sewers on January 1st of this year and since that time the number of these houses has been materially reduced.

Ninety per cent. of those houses that do not have city water are occupied by Negroes; 81 per cent. of those that do not have sewers are occupied by Negroes. Without either one of these, decent, sanitary plumbing facilities are impossible. Each of these houses is so situated as to be almost inaccessible by sewers and water mains on account of the uneven topography.

**Much Refuse Is Seen.**

Discarded parts of automobiles, tin cans, boxes, paper and an assorted volume of trash and rubbish is found in the alleys, on the vacant lots, and in the rear yards of many of the houses in each of the poorer Negro residential sections of this city. In the rear of one house the small yard is almost overflowing with tin cans. In the back yards of other shacks pieces of broken furniture, old bottles and jars, ashes, and in a few instances, even garbage, were found piled high.

To remove at least some of the accumulated refuse in these areas, the city department of public works, during the month of May, conducted a wholesale cleaning up of a limited area in the old Jackson ward section between Fifth street on the east, Marshall street on the south, Hermitage road on the west and Bacon Quarter's Branch on the north. Working for eighteen days, a special force of twelve men gathered up a total of 1,170.8 tons of refuse.

Regularly, of course, the city collects ashes, trash and garbage in every section of this city. Even in these residential areas of the poorest sort which are isolated and relatively inaccessible, the city's scavengers regularly drive their trucks and make an effort to clean up these unpaved dirt streets, and to collect garbage and trash.

**Matter Accumulates Rapidly.**

Yet despite the regular efforts of the city to remove this trash rubbish and garbage from each home, this matter accumulates rapidly. Many Negro renters show little pride about the houses in which they live. They will not expend the effort necessary to keep their premises free from vast accumulations of filth and refuse, and will litter up the vacant lots and alleyways near their homes. Many of these families provide no receptacles for the collection of trash or garbage, and in this way handicap the city's efforts.

Except with respect to street improvements there is no disparity between the provisions of municipal services for whites and Negroes in Richmond.

And even in the matter of streets, what little difference there was, seems likely to be wiped out soon as the city continues its construction of streets in the outlying districts and smooth-paves downtown streets.

Where friction between the races has been aroused by the movement of Negroes into white residential areas, a common cause has been the failure of those cities to equitably provide municipal services in the

past must be displaced by more equitable treatment in the future, if common sense is to govern.

Negro sections. Denied clean, paved streets, sewers and the like in their own sections the more ambitious and progressive Negro citizens move to those areas where they can have these facilities. What discrimination there has been in Richmond in the

# LACK SEWER CONNECTIONS

LOCATION AND NUMBER OF HOUSES IN RICHMOND WITH DRY CLOSETS ON JAN. 1, 1931.

	City Ward:				Total
	Jefferson.	Madison.	Clay.	Lee.	
Needing water only:					
White	---	---	---	---	---
Negro	5	1	---	3	9
Needing sewer only:					
White	7	6	1	---	14
Negro	25	1	---	17	43
Needing water and sewer:					
White	---	3	---	2	5
Negro	11	10	---	19	40
Total	48	21	1	41	111

\*With the conclusion of the construction program for the year 1931 the total number of houses with dry closets in Richmond will have been reduced to 82.

RICHMOND, VA  
NEWS-LEADER

OCT 1 1931

## Comprehensive City Plan Is Needed To Rid Richmond of Slum Conditions

Experience of Other Cities Proves Problem Can Be Well Solved.

[Editor's Note—The necessity of improving living conditions in the poorer residential sections of Richmond and the ways in which this may be accomplished are pointed out by The News Leader's special investigator in the final article of a series on housing and living conditions.]

By JOHN J. CORSON, III.

Immediate correction of the conditions revealed in The News Leader's study of housing conditions in the poorest Negro residential sections of Richmond is essential.

This study has proven that hundreds of human beings are living in Richmond under circumstances that undermine their health and decency.

It has shown that these conditions threaten the health, offend the noses and penalize the pocketbook of every taxpayer in this city.

It has demonstrated that the city is losing much of its best labor because ambitious and progressive Negro men and women will not put up with living conditions in Richmond's slums.

It has shown that such conditions explain in large part why Negro morbidity and mortality rates in Richmond are much

higher than corresponding white rates.

Jail alley, Gilbert alley, Hague street, Short Sixth street, Penitentiary Bottom, Childress alley and other vile slums now disgracing Richmond should be cleaned up at once. Such vicious, slovenly neighborhoods are acute menaces, and if, as is claimed, existing executive authority is not broad enough to insure prompt action, city council should broaden the executive powers and hold the mayor to a strict accountability.

### Part of City Plan.

Any program for the improvement of the several foul Negro sections should be an integral part of a comprehensive city plan. The broad outlines of a program for the improvement of these areas may be sketched from the experience of New York, Chicago, New Orleans, Shreveport, and Atlanta, as well as other cities busy with this same problem. Faulty as this plan may be, still it contains the fruit of past experience and should outline a few worthwhile methods by which these Negro sections may be improved.

Although in Richmond much is already being done by the city to improve those sections inhabited by Negroes, this is no argument against further and immediate action by the city toward wiping out these slum sections.

Within the next year all accessible houses should be connected with water and sewers. Many more streets in the Negro sections must be improved with curbs, gutters and paving. Older streets must have their antiquated pavements recovered smoothly.

To improve the character of the

houses in these poorer Negro districts of Richmond both the city plumbing and building codes must be vitalized.

### Should Be Mandatory.

The minimum standards of the city plumbing code must be gradually raised and strenuously enforced, until at least there will be a separate water spigot, sink and toilet within each house for each family living therein. To reach this goal the enforcement of many sections of the plumbing code should be made mandatory rather than at the discretion of the plumbing inspector, a political appointee.

Secondly, the building code should be made to prohibit the building of cheap, box-like, one-story frame houses on scant foundations, on ill-drained lots; to require that every room be adequately ventilated and contain a minimum number of square feet, and to permit the condemnation of many houses that, although safe, are wholly unfitted by size, ventilation, and physical condition for human habitation.

Eventually—the sooner the better—Richmond will adopt a comprehensive city plan. Such a plan will contribute to the improvement of the poorer Negro residential district in three ways.

First, when a "master plan" for Richmond is drafted it will provide for a number of small parks in the more congested sections of this city. One or more of these parks will be located in the congested areas of the former Jackson ward. There they will do much toward raising the living standards of many Negro families, who now spend their lives within the confines of four close, dirty walls, and in the alleys

and streets adjoining their homes.

### Areas for Expansion.

Secondly, a comprehensive city plan will contribute to the eradication of slum-like Negro sections by setting aside certain areas for the expansion of Negro settlements. Here in desirably located regions Negro citizens will be provided with clean, paved streets, water, sewers and all necessary utilities.

Two areas, one between Brook Road and Howard Road, and the other northeast of Leigh street and northwest of the Boulevard, have in the past been suggested for this purpose.

To confine the Negro population within the boundaries of its old residential districts is to cause overcrowding, insanitary conditions and the resultant ill health, immorality and crime. The encroachment of Negroes into white residential sections naturally follows. On the other hand, if desirable areas for the expansion of Negro settlements are provided, they can live decently without in any way conflicting with the whites living in other sections of the city.

Thirdly, a "master plan" for Richmond will provide for the utilization of those areas within this city which by topography or surroundings are unfit for human habitation as sites for industrial plants or sites to be beautified and turned into parks. Today such a plan seems highly visionary. When every city becomes a place in which to live as well as to work, the idea will sound commonplace.

### Capital Must Help.

Finally, private individuals and private capital must be enlisted to aid in the improvement of these poorer Negro sections in two ways. First, private capital must be made available at reasonable, but profitable, rates to those Negroes who are able and desirous of building their own homes.

Few home owners will allow their homes to become as dilapidated and their premises as filthy as those of Negro tenants in these slum areas. Rather they will take some pride in improving the appearance of their homes by keeping them clean, in repair, painted, and by planting gardens, flowers and shrubs. An increased number of Negro home owners will make of the Negro citizenry in this city a more stable and desirable element in this city's population.

Secondly, private capital must be enlisted to undertake the revamping of those houses in these slums which are capable of reconstruction. These houses then would serve as model homes for Negro tenants, and as well as models for all dwellings constructed in the future in these poorer sections. Solidly constructed and equipped with necessary sanitary conveniences, electric lights, and containing at least three fair-sized rooms, a kitchen and a bathroom, these houses would still, of necessity, be built so economically as to permit a fair profit to be earned on the capital invested from rents commensurate with the meager incomes of the Negro families who urgently need better living quarters.

### Example in Other Cities.

In other cities, Shreveport, La., for

example, private capital is engaged in the modernization of Negro dwellings. There it has been proven that capital can be profitably engaged in the financing of Negro home buyers and in modernizing old Negro houses. Further it has been demonstrated

that the provision of model homes is valuable in educating the lower classes of Negro citizens to appreciate the advantages of decent living in clean, neat, attractive quarters with adequate sanitary conveniences.

But no program designed to rid Richmond of the few cancerous slums within her boundaries will succeed unless Negro wage earners in this city are to be paid such wages as will enable them to pay for decent, clean, wholesome quarters. No Negro family of four persons can live like humans with an income of only \$12.70 per week. For Richmond to condemn these people to live in such degrading overtly is to insure that the vilest sort of living conditions will obtain in the future as they do at present.

In comparison with the Negro sections of many other cities, Richmond Negroes, on the whole, are favored with far better residential areas. Yet this is no argument against the immediate cleaning up of Richmond's worst sections.

Within a relatively few areas in Richmond housing conditions of the vilest, rottenest sort obtain. It is unthinkable that when Richmond's citizens are made aware of the living conditions in these vicious, slovenly slums and recognize the inescapable connection between the filth, squalor, disease and immorality in the worst of these crowded insanitary quarters, where their laundresses, cooks and maids live and their own fare, such conditions will be allowed to remain.

# ONE-THIRD OF THOSE INVITED ATTEND

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26—(CNS)— Nearly fifty of the 150 colored physicians invited to attend the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection were here for the three days' session which closed on Saturday at the Willard Hotel. Approximately 350 in all were to have attended the conference.

The colored delegation was headed by Dr. W. G. Alexander, of Orange, N. J., general secretary of the Negro Medical Association. Dr. Phillip Van Ingen, of New York, chairman of the committee on medical care for children, said in an address Saturday morning relative to the Negro and Indian: "Studies of Negro hospitals in the South show that they are largely given over to surgical cases; there is very little provision for medical cases or for children. We know of only 183 hospitals for the colored, with a bed capacity of 9000. Over half of them were graded as class C. In the public health field there is real need for Negro nurses among their own people. In the co-operative extension work of the Department of Agriculture, Negro home demonstration agents are utilized in 157 counties where there is a large colored population. There are two medical schools for Negroes. Just how many Negro physicians there are is not definitely known. Except in his own hospitals, there is almost no opportunity for the Negro physician to secure clinical experience. The whole problem of Negro health is still a difficult one to solve, and much study is being given to it by many groups.

"The 345,000 Indians in the country also present another problem because of their ignorance and superstition. Their hospital standards

and nursing facilities are inadequate. The tuberculosis and infant mortality among this group is high. Negroes constitute still another problem. Living in congested quarters in the cities, the mortality rate was 25 per cent, while for the country areas it was 15 per cent for 1925. In the cities little recreational space is available." Dr. Fred Lyman Adair, chairman of the pre-natal and maternal care of the children, pointed out in his address:

"The doctors individually and collectively should lead in these movements to secure the health and protection of mothers and infants. We should apply and disseminate our present knowledge and our basic and other medical scientists should continue to push forward so that new knowledge may be acquired which will add to the security, improvement, health and happiness of the future generations of the human race.

"It is necessary to have properly trained and educated doctors, nurses, midwives, social workers, mothers, he laity and others dealing with the problems of maternity and infancy. It is necessary that proper organizations be set up in various communities, that the necessary institutions be established, and that essential personnel be supplied."

Dr. Kenneth D. Blackfan, professor of pediatrics, Harvard University, in his address said: "Physicians must be as well acquainted with the healthy child as with the sick child. They must appreciate the importance of asking the question, not only 'Is the child well?' but 'Is the child happy?' for the truly healthy child also is a happy child."

It was pointed out at the conference that the study of the hospital facilities for children has revealed an unsatisfactory distribution of hospitals as well as ineffective organization for the best interest of the child in many of them.

Dr. James Robert McCord, of Emory University, Atlanta, Ga., in a study on midwifery, pointed out that of the 47,000 midwives in the country the largest number are colored and practice among their own race.

The colored physicians attending the conference were Dr. John A. Kenny, Newark, N. J.; Dr. L. A. West, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. H. M. Green, Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. J. E. Brown, Keystone, W. Va.; Dr. H. F. Jones, Yonkers, N. Y.; Dr. J. R. Levy, Florence, S. C.; Dr. John P. Turner, Philadelphia; Dr. George Bowles, York, Pa.; Dr. M. O. Bousefield, Chicago; Dr. Carl Roberts, Chicago; Dr. T. M. Miller, Kansas City; Dr. Springer, Illinois; Dr. Albert Johnson, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.;

Dr. H. M. Holmes, Atlanta; Dr. Wayman Reeves, Atlanta; Dr. G. C. McIntyre, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. D. A. Ferguson, Richmond, Va.; Dr. U. G. Carter, Providence, R. I.; Dr. U. G. Vincent and Dr. Kelly Miller Jr., New York; Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferrebee, Dr. Frank Cook, Dr. A. R. Carr, Dr. Charles Cornish, Dr. W. A. Warfield and Dr. Roscoe Brown, all of this city. Dr. J. R. Lee, president of Florida A. & M. College, Tallahassee, Fla., also attended the conference.

## MCCURDY AT WHITE HO. DELEGATE TO PRES. HOOVER'S CHILD CONFERENCE

Dr. Theodore E. A. McCurdy has accepted the invitation of President Hoover to attend the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection which will be attended by the leading medical men of the country on February 29 to March 1.

Dr. McCurdy is the only colored physician invited from here. He received his M. D. at Shaw University, later attending the Edinburg College specializing in general medicine and surgery. He received his Royal College of Surgeons degree here.

His wife is the former Miss Talula Shepard, sister of Dr. James E. Shepard, president of North Carolina College.

## FIFTY PHYSICIANS AT WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, (CNS.) — Nearly fifty of the one hundred fifty physicians invited to attend the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection were here for the three days' session which closed Saturday at the Willard Hotel.

The colored delegation was headed by Dr. W. G. Alexander of Orange, N. J., general secretary of the National Medical Association.

Dr. Phillip Van Ingen, of New York City, chairman of the committee on medical care for children, said in an address Saturday morning relative to the Negro and Indian:

"Studies of Negro hospitals in the South show that they are largely given over to surgical cases; there is very little provision for medical cases or for children. We know of only 183 hospitals for the colored, with a bed capacity of 9,000. Over half of them were graded as Class C. In the public health field there

is real need for Negro nurses among their own people. In the co-operative extension work of the Department of Agriculture, Negro home demonstration agents are utilized in 157 counties where there is a large colored population. There are two medical schools for Negroes. Just how many Negro physicians there are is not definitely known. Except in his own hospitals there is almost no opportunity for the Negro physician to secure clinical experience."

Physicians attending the conference were: Dr. John A. Kenny, Newark, N. J.; Dr. L. A. West, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. H. M. Green, Knoxville, Tenn.; Dr. J. E. Brown, Keystone, W. Va.; Dr. E. F. Jones, Yonkers, N. Y.; Dr. J. R. Levy, Florence, S. C.; Dr. John P. Turner, Philadelphia; Dr. George Bowles, York, Pa.; Dr. M. O. Bousefield, Chicago; Dr. Carl Roberts, Chicago; Dr. T. M. Miller, Kansas City; Dr. Springer, Illinois;

Dr. Albert Johnson, Mount Vernon, N. Y.; Dr. H. M. Holmes, Atlanta; Dr. Wayman Reeves, Atlanta; Dr. G. C. McIntyre, Louisville, Ky.; Dr. D. A. Ferguson, Richmond, Va.; Dr. U. G. Carter, Providence, R. I.; Dr. U. G. Vincent and Dr. Kelly Miller, Jr., New York City; Dr. Dorothy Boulding Ferrebee, Dr. Frank Cook, Dr. A. R. Carr, Dr. Charles Cornish, Dr. W. A. Warfield and Dr. Roscoe Brown, all of this city. Dr. J. R. Lee, president of Florida A. and M. College, Tallahassee, Fla., also attended the conference.